FBIS DAILY REPORT

CONTENTS

Latin America

Vol VI No 188

28 September 1982

ARGENTINA

Aguirre Lanari Holds 'Frank' Meeting With Shultz B 1
CNEA Faces Budget Cuts; Backs Israel at IAEA B 1
[BUENOS AIRES HERALD 27 Sep]
Naval Industry Mission Returns From PRC B 2
Public Information Secretary on Responsibilities B 2
Special Telecommunications Commission Convened B 3
Briefs: Teachers' Bonus, Wage Increase; B 3
Employment Rate Drops

BOLIVIA

Installation of Congress Set for 10 October C 1
Banzer Suarez Reelected Top ADN Leader C 1

BRAZIL

Figueiredo's Address to UN General Assembly D 1

CHILE

Police Disperse Group Demanding Exiles' Return E 1
Briefs: Radar Network; Ambassador to Burma; E 1
Ambassador to Finland

COLOMBIA

Opposition Parties Seek Elimination of MAS F 1
Havana: 15 M-19 Members Reportedly Released F 1
Demarcation Talks With Venezuela Suspended F 1

ECUADOR

Government Countering National Transit Strike G 1

MEXICO

Protest Note to Guatemala on Border Incidents M 1
Mexico Denies Opening Territory to Guerrillas M 2
President Lopez Portillo To Address UN 1 Oct M 2
UK Deputy Foreign Secretary on Regional Issues M 2
PRI National Council Begins Annual Meeting M 3
Party Considers Unity of Leftist Forces Remote M 3

PANAMA

President Returns From Trip to Costa Rica N 1
Cinchoneros Depart for Cuba on Panamanian Plane N 1
General Paredes on Cuban Visit, Other Issues N 1
Station Criticizes Meeting With Cuban Officials N 6
Briefs: Conadesopaz Congress N 7

CENTRAL AMERICA

BELIZE

Ministry Limits Plane Fuel Sale in Antidrug Move P 1

COSTA RICA

Monge, De La Espriella Hold News Conference P 1
Further De La Espriella Comments P 3
Panamanian President Ends Visit, Leaves for Home P 4
OIJ Uncovers Former Somoza Guardsmen's Group P 4
Government Denial P 4
Council Plans Permanent Policies for Refugees P 5

EL SALVADOR

Front Chairman Ungo Denounces U.S. Policy [Athens] P 5
Radio Venceremos Reports on FMLN Activities P 6
Ungo Lauds Election Victors P 6
Flood Injuries Reported P 6
Government Usulutan Offensive P 7
FMLN Recruitment Call P 7
On U.S. Advisers' Deaths P 7
Honduran Hostage Crisis P 8
Regime War Plans Alleged P 8
Ungo's Visit to Greece P 9

GUATEMALA

Foreign Minister on Alleged Mexico Incursion P 9
Government Extends State of Siege for 30 Days P 9
Front Denounces Rios Montt Execution 'Maneuver' P 10
[Managua EL NUEVO DIARIO 18 Sep]
Rebel Leader Criticizes U.S. Intervention [Havana] P 11

HONDURAS

Paz Barnica Signs Financial Agreement in Paris P 11
News Conference P 12
Communist Party Comments on Cinchoneros Actions [Havana] P 13

NICARAGUA

Embassy in U.S. Responds to Bosworth Statement P 13
BARRICADA on U.S. Military Aid for Honduras [16 Sep] P 13
Wheelock Attacks U.S. at INRA Official's Funeral P 14
Protest to Honduras P 15
BARRICADA Cites Counterrevolutionary Activities [13 Sep] P 16

CUBA

Viera Accuses U.S. of Pressuring UN Missions Q 1
Havana Reports Cienfuegos Mission to Panama Q 1
GRANMA Reports on Talks With Panamanian Leaders [27 Sep] Q 1
Visiting French Minister Notes Areas of Accord Q 2
Minister Ralite Ends Visit Q 2
Algerian Party Delegation Carries On Visit Q 3
Meets Rodriguez, Malmierca Q 3
Meeting With Castro Q 3
Cooperation Protocol Signed Q 3
Angolan Party Leader Signs Mutual Aid Agreement Q 4
Angolan Foreign Minister Refers to Cuban Troops Q 4
Machado Ventura Speaks on Economic Problems Q 4

OTHER COUNTRIES

INTER-AMERICAN AFFAIRS

OAS Council President Favors Latin Bloc V 1

VENEZUELA

Herrera: We Will Not Invade Any Country V 1

AGUIRRE LANARI HOLDS 'FRANK' MEETING WITH SHULTZ

PY280121 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 2222 GMT 27 Sep 82

[Text] United Nations, 27 Sep (TELAM) -- Argentine Foreign Minister Juan Ramon Aguirre Lanari termed highly frank the meeting that he held this afternoon with U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz. The two foreign ministers held a 45-minute meeting at the United Nations Plaza building.

Aguirre Lanari, Lucio Garcia del Solar, Argentine ambassador to the United States; Carlos Muniz, Argentine ambassador to the United Nations; Shultz; Lawrence Eagleburger, assistant secretary for political affairs; Thomas Enders, assistant secretary for Latin American affairs; and Jeanne Kirkpatrick, U.S. ambassador to the United Nations; participated in the meeting.

During a press conference after the meeting, Aguirre Lanari said that during that meeting, which was held at Shultz' request, Argentina expounded its views on various topics, with the Malvinas occupying a substantial part of the talks.

The foreign minister indicated that he had explained in detail to his U.S. counterpart the Argentine draft that he wanted the General Assembly to approve and on which the United States did not make a specific decision. Shultz promised to study the topic with interest, but did not indicate the position the United States would adopt in this respect.

The draft resolution of the assembly that is being promoted by Argentina and other Latin American countries urges Great Britain to resume negotiations with Argentina over the islands, which were the cause of a war between April and June 1982 in the South Atlantic.

Regarding the bilateral relations between the United States and Argentina, Aguirre Lanari said that "one must let events develop," because it is deeds and not words that will define the truth in this respect. Aguirre Lanari indicated, however, that one can assert that "there is an overall desire regarding points of agreement that benefit both countries."

Asked about the economic aspect, Aguirre Lanari said that during the meeting, Shultz had shown good will toward the U.S. Treasury participating in the solution of Argentina's financial problems.

During the press conference, the Argentine foreign minister also spoke about his meeting this morning with French Foreign Minister Claude Cheysson, which was also held in New York, where high-ranking officials from all over the world are meeting for the UN General Assembly.

In this respect, Aguirre Lanari reported that the meeting had been "very open, I would say constructive." There is, he said, a greater interest in rapprochement and the French "have a great understanding regarding the matter" (Malvinas).

Moreover, he could not say whether the French minister will vote in favor of the draft resolution that is being sponsored by Argentina in this respect. "I am not the person who can say what his future position will be," Aguirre Lanari clarified.

CNEA FACES BUDGET CUTS; BACKS ISRAEL AT IAEA

PY271850 Buenos Aires BUENOS AIRES HERALD in English 27 Sep 82 p 5

[Text] Argentina opposed the exclusion of Israel from a recent meeting of the International Atomic Energy Agency in Vienna, National Atomic Energy Commission (CNEA) President Carlos Castro Madero said yesterday. Speaking with reporters at Ezeiza Airport upon his return from Vienna, the retired vice-admiral said Argentina opposed the IAEA's rejection of Israel because it was politically motivated.

The Israeli delegation's credentials were turned down by the so-called "Atomic Club" following the massacre of Palestinian refugees in Beirut on September 17. The motion was sponsored by Third World countries and was passed by an absolute majority. The expulsion was opposed by European Economic Community (EEC) countries and the United States, which walked out of the meeting.

Touching on other subjects yesterday, Castro Madero expressed his "concern" in the face of possible CNEA budget cuts, which may come as a result of Argentina's current economic crisis.

He explained that completion of the country's second nuclear power station, located in Rio Tercero, Cordoba, would not be delayed by government austerity measures "because it is a project that we need to have put into operation as soon as possible." But Castro Madero admitted that all "institutions must make an effort to contribute to the solution of Argentina's economic problem." He said state funding restrictions would delay other projects currently being undertaken by the CNEA.

Referring to the IAEA meeting in Vienna, Castro Madero said he "reiterated our objections to the use of nuclear submarines" by Britain in the South Atlantic conflict.

He said Argentina's vote against Israel's expulsion from the Vienna meeting represented an effort to keep the international organization within "exclusively technical bounds."

NAVAL INDUSTRY MISSION RETURNS FROM PRC

PY271302 Buenos Aires Domestic Service in Spanish 1030 GMT 27 Sep 82

[Text] A naval industry mission has returned to this country after visiting the PRC. The mission was headed by Capt Jose Manuel Suarez, national director of that industry. In his meetings with PRC officials, he attempted to increase bilateral trade. Captain Suarez made statements to the press on his arrival, saying that the results of the trip were positive and that this contact might be the beginning of wide-ranging bilateral trade. He also said that he could assert after this visit that there is a concrete possibility for Argentina to build ships for China, since a PRC company had requested the price for building a 40,000 ton ship. In this manner, he stressed, the doors have been opened for large-scale future operations.

PUBLIC INFORMATION SECRETARY ON RESPONSIBILITIES

PY272002 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1810 GMT 27 Sep 82

[Text] Buenos Aires, 27 Sep (TELAM) -- The Public Information Secretariat issued a communique today on the responsibilities and attitudes of the public information secretary. The text of the communique reads as follows:

In view of several reports regarding his responsibilities and attitudes, the public information secretary states.

1. That it is indispensable to maintain the credibility of the office he heads, an office that is subordinated to the nation's presidency.

2. He wishes to avoid any personal confrontation that a direct offense may bring about, although he considers some criticism to be strangely overblown.

3. Although his post is still known as the Public Information Secretariat, his mission and responsibility are those of social communication.

4. Information from the executive branch must be given by the presidential spokesman with whom -- from the moment the public information secretary assumed his post -- he clearly and smoothly coordinates the respective activities.

5. It was agreed with Mr Maschwitz that -- except for his first courtesy visit -- the presence of the public information secretary in the press room was not necessary, although he has made himself available to be there at any time.

The public information secretary now appeals to the integrity of the journalists to confirm that:

A. The public information secretary never requested any written questionaire.

B. An unrequested questionaire was placed on his desk at a time he was involved in a task that could not be set aside.

C. Since he was asked to answer it urgently, he wrote the answers in long hand and then read them over the phone to someone in the press room.

D. Shortly afterwards, that same female journalist wished to add another question, which was answered at once.

E. Because of the agreement previously reached, Mr Maschwitz was previously informed of the answers and the procedure.

F. At no time was there any question regarding restrictions on topics such as subversion, P-2, etcetera.

8. [as received] The military junta (supreme organ of the state) has just reminded everyone that law No 20,840, which was passed by the nation's Congress and promulgated by the executive branch on 28 September 1974, is still in force.

9. The operations under secretary, as the authority to whom the state-controlled radio stations and television channels are subordinate, limited himself to conveying expressed instructions to the interventors so as to ensure compliance with law No 20,840.

10. He states that, in discharging his responsibilities, he always bears in mind the president's words to the effect that we must prepare ourselves to live in a democracy and to listen to conflicting opinions; that he knows that freedom of expression is an indispensable right, and that, likewise, it can also serve to repair errors that may have been committed in the exercise of such a salutary right.

SPECIAL TELECOMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION CONVENED

PY242238 Buenos Aires Domestic Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 24 Sep 82

[Text] Communications Secretary Angel Barbieri opened a special commission today aimed at studying and satisfying the needs of the Argentine provinces in the field of telecommunications. The new organ is chaired by Telecommunications Under Secretary Arturo Arrazcaeta and is made up of officials of the national directorates of telecommunications and radio broadcasting. The commission is also made up of the planning, engineering and control directorate; the legal affairs directorate; the directorate of administration and the national telecommunications laboratory.

Angel Barbieri stated in his speech that other organs such as Entel [National Telecommunications Company], Encotel [National Mail and Telegraph Enterprise], Argentina Televisora Color, the private telephone companies of the interior of the country and the Comfer [Federal Broadcasting Council] will also be able to participate in the commission.

BRIEFS

TEACHERS' BONUS, WAGE INCREASE -- Buenos Aires, 16 Sep (TELAM) -- The government has decided to grant a one time only 600,000-pesos special bonus to teachers and to increase their salaries by 1 million pesos as of 1 September. This was reported at the end of a meeting that Education Minister Cayetano Licciardo held today with President Reynaldo Bignone. [Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1635 GMT 16 Sep 82 PY]

EMPLOYMENT RATE DROPS -- According to the report released by the National Statistics and Census Industry, the manufacturing sector has recorded a drop of 38.5 percent in the employment rate during the first half of 1982 as compared to the same period in 1975. [Buenos Aires CLARIN in Spanish 21 Sep 82 p 12 PY]

INSTALLATION OF CONGRESS SET FOR 10 OCTOBER

PY280156 La Paz Cadena Panamericana in Spanish 0000 GMT 28 Sep 82

[Text] General Vildoso Calderon's cabinet, which met in an extraordinary session at 1500, approved decree-law No 19,157, which indicates the date that the National Congress that was elected in 1980 is to be installed and opened and which will lead to the proclamation of the constitutional president and vice president. It indicates that 10 October 1982 has been set for the handing over of the government with the appropriate ceremonies. Following is the text of the decree-law:

Brig Gen Guido Vildoso Calderon, president of the republic, considering:

That the government of the armed forces, in accordance with the democratic calling of the military institution, with a high sense of their responsibility with regard to the history of the Bolivian people, has ordered the Congress that was elected in 1980 into session, having granted the National Electoral Court the necessary legal attributions through decree-law No 19,144 dated 21 September 1982, as an important political measure for a quick return to a state of law.

That the National Electoral Court has concluded with the appropriate measures that are written into the Constitution and the electoral law and with the appropriate credentials having been handed to the honorable national representatives, it is thus appropriate to call the honorable National Congress into session in order to carry out the national precept of electing the nation's president and vice president and to order the solemn handing over of the government.

That it is necessary to establish a prudent period of time to prepare the solemn handing over of the government to allow for the arrival of foreign delegations, thus highlighting this very important ceremony, important both internally and abroad for Bolivia's image, the Council of Ministers decrees:

Article 1. The honorable National Congress is hereby called into session for its formal installing and opening on 1 October 1982 in the city of La Paz so that, in accordance with Article 90 of the Constitution, it can elect the president and the vice president of the republic in accordance with the results of the 1980 elections.

Article 2. Once the election has been proclaimed by the honorable National Congress, the 10th of October has been set for the handing over of the government with the appropriate ceremonies.

The foreign and interior, migration and justice ministers are hereby charged with the implementation of this decree-law.

Given at Government House in the city of La Paz on 27 September 1982.

Signed Gen Guido Vildoso Calderon and the cabinet plenum.

BANZER SUAREZ REELECTED TOP ADN LEADER

PY271504 La Paz Cadena Panamericana in Spanish 1130 GMT 27 Sep 82

[Text] Gen Hugo Banzer Suarez was reelected as leader of the Nationalist Democratic Action [ADN] during the third national ADN meeting held in Cochabamba. Our correspondent in Cochabamba reports that (Teodoro Galindo) was also reelected as second highest-ranking ADN leader.

Banzer and (Galindo) were sworn in yesterday upon conclusion of the ADN meeting.

General Banzer is also reported to have delivered a speech in which he defended his 7-year term as president.

FIGUEIREDO'S ADDRESS TO UN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

PY272121 Brasilia Domestic Service in Portuguese 1440 GMT 27 Sep 82

[Speech delivered by Brazilian President Joao Figueiredo at the opening of the 37th session of the UN General Assembly -- live]

[Text] Mr President, I want to congratulate you on behalf of the Brazilian people and government on your designation as president of the 37th session of the UN General Assembly. I greet the illustrious representatives of member countries attending this meeting and extend my warmest greeting to Ambassador Javier Perez de Cuellar, United Nations secretary general, a distinguished diplomat who honors Latin America. I express my sincere gratitude to Iraq's representative 'Ismat Kitani, who efficiently and skillfully conducted the work of the 36th session.

Now that the general debate is about to begin, I express the hope that this General Assembly session will make a positive contribution to the just settlement of controversies which imperil international peace and security and to the neutralization of the threats hanging over the stability of the world economy.

Some decades ago, an unprecedented economic depression and uncontrollable political tensions led to a catastrophic war. Therefore, in 1945, the association of sovereign countries decided to create a vast network of institutions aimed at implementing cooperation among countries in order to preclude the repetition of such chaotic economic crises, promote socioeconomic development, ease political tensions and free the new generations from the scourge of war.

Today, dramatic signs of the crisis of the 30's are once again emerging. Conventional methods have not been able to cope with the current economic crisis, which has reached worldwide dimensions and which has hit countries belonging to different systems.

Although it was created for analyzing and settling disputes among countries, the United Nations has, paradoxically, too often turned into a stage for fruitless confrontation. Meanwhile, we are aware that other international forums are run by the more powerful countries which at times disregard the cause of freedom and justice among men and nations. In view of this situation, Brazil reiterates it commitment to join its efforts to those of the other member countries to turn the United Nations into a harmonious center for international action.

I do not hesitate to call upon all the governments represented here to closely follow the purposes and principles upon which our organization is based in the international area.

I make a fervent appeal to once again join our efforts in the task of building peace. There is no future, and there cannot be any future, in the sad and unacceptable balance of terror. We can no longer allow the illusion that world harmony can be based on an excessive capacity for destruction. Meetings and negotiation attempts, carried out for decades, have failed to halt the expansion, improvement and diversification of nuclear weapons, which are able to destroy mankind several times over in several manners and in various circumstances.

I am deeply concerned over the persisting Middle East crisis, where the main issues are now the Iraq-iran conflict and the consequences of the military action against Lebanon, a country with which we maintain close brotherly ties.

Not long ago, the world pulse was deeply shocked by the massacre of Palestinian civilians in Beirut. We all know that the Middle East situation will be solved only by ending the military occupation of Arab territories and by recognizing the Palestinian people's right to a sovereign homeland, as well as recognizing the right of all countries of the region, including Israel, to live in peace within secure borders.

Sources of tension also persist in southern Africa, generated by the occupation of Namibia and by successive aggressions against independent countries, particularly Angola.

Brazil cannot fail to condemn racial discrimination, especially the institutionalized forms of discrimination, which pose a threat to international peace iteself.

The course leading to the neutralization of the tensions which have so hindered the just aspirations to economic development and actual independence of the nations of the area should be none other than the successful completion of the current negotiations aimed at rapidly achieving Namibian independence, based on UN resolutions.

My country is seriously concerned over the expansion of the process of transfer of tensions, generated by the confrontation of the superpowers, to the world's less developed areas. The policy or prestige and power applied to the Third World creates divisions and seriously affects the proposals of cooperation among developing countries. Brazil's firm position is that such a process must be urgently halted and reversed, and to that effect my country is willing to make its contribution. It cannot be accepted that, under a policy of blocs, sovereign countries should be occupied and their freedom curtailed through interference in their internal affairs, such as is happening in Afghanistan.

The principle of refusal to resort to force should be directly applied in the current main sources of tension.

Central America is experiencing a deep crisis of considerable proportions and of political and socioeconomic significance.

Brazil (?supports) the principles of self-determination of peoples and noninterference in the internal affairs of other nations. Our country believes that each people should seek the political solution to their problems without any open or veiled external interference.

In the economic area, it is not possible to either isolate Central American difficulties from the world crisis or minimize the responsibility of industrialized countries in the creation of suitable conditions for the resumption of socioeconomic development. Peace and stability in this region are premises for hemispheric coexistence.

We recently witnessed the painful results of the mechanism of violence in the South Atlantic. My government has in recent months undertaken considerable efforts in favor of a lasting political solution to the question of the Malvinas Islands, and we are determined to proceed with such efforts in the interests of peace, security and concord among nations. As it did from the beginning of this controvery in 1833, Brazil today recognizes the sovereign rights of the Republic of Argentina over the Malvinas Islands, and it defends, as it has always done, the need for negotiations as the only means for the solution to that problem. So I stress the importance of the examination of the Malvinas question by the UN General Assembly, a question which requires, as an initial step for its handling, the integral implementation of Resolution 502 of the UN Security Council. It is high time that those who have so strongly condemned the use of force for the solution of conflicts prove that their ojectives are coherent and authentic.

Negotiations must be launched in order to reduce the risk of mounting tensions in geographic areas that long for cooperation and prosperity.

Mr President, Brazil lives in peace with its closest neighbors, with Latin America and with all nations that respect the basic principles of international coexistence. In fact, the relations between Brazil and the nations friendly to America are a clear-cut example of the success that one can attain by openly following the course of mutual respect, noninterference and the search for hamonious and fruitful coexistence (?free) from controversies or topical differences.

Being part of Latin America, Brazil is convinced that its neighbors will be able to overcome their disagreements, even territorial, through peaceful and conciliatory means. It hopes that the fraternal Latin American nations will strengthen their capacity for dialogue and regional understanding. We must all work together so that our region will reach higher levels of development, organization and positive performance within the international framework.

With the fraternal African nations, our neighbors across the ocean to whom we are bound by common history, Brazil wants to develop the deepest, most direct and cordial relations.

Equally friendly objectives inspire our policy of rapprochement toward the other Third World nations. Being a part of the Western world, Brazil wishes to fulfill its own national aspirations with respect for freedom, democracy and human rights. These supreme values, together with the Western tradition of pluralism and equality among nations, provide the background which allows Brazil to operate outside the hegemonic restrictions of the superpowers or adverse ideological pressures.

Brazil tries to maintain correct relations with countries of the Eastern bloc, particularly in the economic and commercial areas, on the basis of mutual interests and respect for the principle of noninterference in domestic affairs.

Brazil believes that the ideals of peace and development should be part of the objectives and actions of its foreign policy. Brazil follows the path of universalism, coexistence and national dignity.

Mr President, the seriousness of the present international situation has prompted the president of the Federative Republic of Brazil to come to the United Nations for the first time. Never in the history of this organization have the risks and threats to peace, to the security and progress of nations, been so serious. So I call on all the member states to jointly undertake determined efforts to face up to the international problems, which are growing larger, and to roll back the forces of hopelessness.

It is our common duty to fulfill the expectations of our predecessors who -- having themselves experienced the consequences of political upheavals, economic depression and war -- committed their own efforts and ours as well to the promotion of peace and development.

The shortcomings of the current international system are too many. We are confronted with a picture barren of achievements but fraught with problems, barren of creativity but fraught with examples of lack of organization, barren of efficiency but fraught with imbalances and waste. I cannot remain indifferent to this picture. The serious shortcomings that appear there must be corrected.

The society of nations is basically a political community. As one cannot make decisions without taking into account the desires and interest of the people of a nation, neither is it possible to disregard the just and legitimate claims of most nations at this forum and preserve the vertical structures of international power. The political role of the United Nations is crucial in the struggle against acquiescence, inflexibility and lust for absolute victory. Only this forum can shape democratic coexistence among states.

Mr President, the whirlwind release of productive forces on a worldwide scale in postwar times built, in just a few decades, the intricate framework of a different world, more complex and less stable but also more diversified and more promising. Thus, the interrelations among nations became a historical necessity.

However, the improvements which we have managed to make to the structure of international coexistence are few and unsatisfactory. Unfortunately, even the weak efforts to promote international cooperation for development are showing a regressive tendency.

At times, the interdependency among nations appears to lapse into attempts at reinstating hegemonic structures or patterns of subordination which do nothing to bring prosperity, be it to the industrialized or to the developing world. As it is being applied in many cases, interdependence appears to be just another name for inequality.

The interests of the North and the South are not contradictory. In fact, there is no crisis between the North and the South; however, there is a deep crisis in the international economic system itself. The two are facing the same terribly adverse situation, and only solidarity and understanding can provide a way out of it. A solution will never be found in recriminations and confrontation.

The challenge that all nations are facing is how to adjust to the new realities of the eighties. The North must fully understand its potential to enrich international trade, it must understand the ineluctable fact that the Third World is emerging as a dynamic partner, and it must understand the Third World's efforts to secure a more prominent place on the stage of international economy.

As for the South, the time has come for us to give an effective shape to the cohesion which we have managed to preserve despite foreign difficulties and internal disagreements. We must move toward the implementation of true interdependent solidarity between Latin America, Africa and Asia.

Our reasons and words must clearly point out that the diversity of Third World countries poses unfathomable opportunities for economic complementation while being a source of unity rather than a field for maneuvers such as arbitrary discrimination among developing nations, maneuvers which threaten to break up the cohesion of the Third World, the international cooperation for development and the North-South dialogue.

We must also definitely prove our ability to calmly and constructively seek proper channels for voicing our positions. Irrespective of how just they may be, our stands should not lead us to inflexible and dogmatic attitudes in negotiations, thus running the risk of weakening our own principles and ideals while further exacerabating the inflexibility characteristic of certain sectors of the developed world.

Mr President, the efforts by the Third World have been fruitless in trying to modify discriminatory rules and decisionmaking mechanisms within institutions such as the IMF, the IBRD and the GATT. Stands reiterated for years or even decades crash headlong against the impregnable wall of the right to veto of a few nations capable of overruling the most obvious considerations and reasons and the most legitimate claims for equality. However, whenever the interest of the great powers are at stake, efforts multiply.

In areas such as the export of services and investment policies, it is not proper for the GATT to work toward the setting up of rules that could hinder the access of developing countries to international markets and even their capacity to organize their own internal markets. At the same time, basic issues related to the improvement of the GATT and to the fulfillment of claims of its developing members should not be disregarded.

Financial [word indistinct] are set up and sometimes implemented [words indistinct] defective decisionmaking mechanisms. These measures restrict the flexibility of operations, increase requirements and unjustly discriminate against developing nations.

Paradoxically, these nations seek to obtain control over organizations which seem to be doomed, if not to disappear, at least to become less and less significant because of the great disparity between the growing needs of their developing members and the funds available to these organizations.

The principles of free trade cannot be applied arbitrarily to capital flow while transfer of technology is halted and the capacity for action of developing nations that import capital is restricted.

The ideals of free trade must not clash with the preservation and strengthening of the autonomy of Third World nations. Interdependency must not become an enemy of national sovereignty.

The developing nations, which have been fighting for permanent sovereignty over their own natural resources, are today facing the new challenge of preserving sovereignty over their own economic sphere of action. This, however, does not mean that developing nations should be hostile or even disinterested in greater interaction at the international level, even with regard to capital flow, technology and the operations of multinational corporations.

On the contrary, there is no denying that most developing nations, starting with those purely Western like Brazil, but also including others of different economic and political structures, hope to strengthen and diversify their ties with the developed West, which is a valuable source of the means of production necessary for development.

The preservation and strengthening of the economic sphere of action of these nations will not hinder the expansion of the international economic system; rather it would further global economic expansion for the benefit of all.

Mr President, having been unable to attend the Cancun meeting because of ill health, I followed the development of that event with hope, faith and even feeling. Thus, I cannot fail to state here, on behalf of the Brazilian Government and people, the sense of deep despair at the lack of any practical results of the Cancun meeting.

On the contrary, we view with anxiety the continuing and even mounting deterioration of mechanisms and institutions which are supposed to provide the solutions to international problems. We view with even more concern the resistance with which large sectors of the developed world treat the greatest ideological achievement of Cancun: The recognition of the fact that the path toward the solution of the current crisis encompasses the South and must follow the course of cooperation among nations rather than merely depend on the ups and downs of the market.

The present crisis is all encompassing in more ways than one. It involves practically all nations and it is both financial and commercial. In addition to being broad, this crisis is also deep. Productive investments are being throttled on a worldwide scale by the burden of high interest rates, the uncertainty of trade prospects and of the fate of the international financial system.

It is almost as if a great economic power of the developed world had been suddenly paralyzed. Thirty million highly skilled workers are unemployed in the United States and West Europe, but the crisis is having an even more devastating effect on developing countries. The economies of developing nations that do not export oil have experienced a deterioration of their terms of trade unprecedented in their history over the past 6 years. This means that the growing efforts to promote exports have been thwarted by a declining inflow of foreign currency leading to spiralling improverishment.

Years of patient investments to build up an exporting framework which has allowed the consumers of develop countries to purchase goods from the South on advantageous terms are being destroyed by unsurmountable protectionistic barriers. Persistently high interest rates undermine the profitability of long-planned investments that have already been made and threaten to make economically unfeasible projects which are indispensible for overcoming the present difficulties.

The mounting cost of servicing foreign debts puts certain nations into unbearable positions, as we can see by the dramatic events which recently affected some of the most promising southern nations.

All these sacrifices could be tolerable if, in their wake, a recomposition of the international economic order were in the offing. Unfortunately, it is not so. The current economic policy of the great powers is destroying wealth without replacing it with anything. The (?decline) of financial flow and the process inhibiting international trade are undermining the prospects for overcoming the present difficulties.

The times call upon us for mutual understanding and flexibility. The North-South dialogue must be urgently resumed. To the long-term efforts aimed at launching the necessary global negotiations it is imperative, of course, to add the discussion of short-term aspects of the crisis.

The economic future depends on the solution of current problems. The task of reorganizing the international economic system can be delayed no longer; however, at this point we must begin this task by making efforts to prevent the very downfall of this system. For this, it is imperative that the main international organizations undertake the integrated and objective examination of emergency measures that would prove to be viable for the opening of international channels of commerce and financing.

The developed countries must undertake projects with a view to fulfilling the following objectives: free trade, expanding the flow of international capital, implementing new policies regarding interest rates and urgently beginning a review of the international monetary system.

Because of their structural tendency toward having deficits in their current accounts, the developing nations cannot be the first to lift the trade barriers because by doing this they would merely be worsening their deficits without generating a thrust strong enough to bring about the recovery of the world economy.

The developed nations must accept the inevitability of restructuring their economies. Only after the developed nations give up their attempts to protect sectors which have ceased to be competitive will the processed and semiprocessed goods of developing nations take their rightful place in the international markets for the benefit of both northern consumers and southern producers.

At the same time, the funds available to international financial organizations must be urgently increased, as the participation of monetary authorities in the efforts to preserve the liquidity and stability of the international financial system must also be increased.

Only thus will the international community in general and the developing nations in particular be able to free themselves from the straightjacket of the simultaneous reduction of trade and the flow of official funds.

As to the matter of interest rates, there are no major differences between the main objectives of the economic policy of the northern nations and the manner in which their interest rates could be managed to make them compatible with the economic and financial possibilities of developing economies.

In fact, it is in the interest of all to prevent the disruption of developing economies from having an undesirable destabilizing effect on northern nations. At the same time, we must acknowledge that one of the essential prerequisites for the reactivation of world trade is that the international monetary system recover a minimum of stability since it cannot become a source of upheavals and a tool of unilateral economic changes prompted by a few great powers.

The solution to the current crisis should not be viewed as aid to developing nations; it is the need to set up conditions which will allow these nations to discharge their obligations by receiving fair pay for their efforts.

Mr President, I came here to voice the legitimate claims of my nation. I am prompted above all by the concern to secure the well-being of my people. We have been making a remarkable effort toward economic development with promising results which have brought hope, not only to the Brazilian people, but also to all those peoples who long for standards of living compatible with human dignity and with the degree of social, economic, scientific and technical development of our times.

It is my duty to seek international conditions favorable to the efforts in which my people are engaged, and Brazil will not give up the role which it is entitled to play among nations.

I hope that the competition from the South will be understood as being a valid expression of the political and economic dynamism of peoples who long for development. May this competition not be used as a pretext for the stubborn preservation of unfair patterns and inefficient relationships, but rather as an incentive for the courageous quest for renewal.

I am convinced that the most powerful states will be able to creatively react to the emergence of the developing world as an active partner at the many levels of international activity. I have unshakable faith in the capacity for renewal of the international community.

However, the atmosphere of political and economic conflict among nations is reaching threatening levels. It is at this point that the moral and political necessity for international cooperation is felt most in order to rationally secure the future of the community of nations.

The awareness that the international community is now facing the greatest challenge to its capacity for action calls for vast and urgent efforts in the following fields: negotiated solutions to the tensions and conflicts which poison the international atmosphere both with regard to East-West relations and among the members of the Third World; giving more credit to dialogue and conciliatory attitudes; strengthening of international institutions, starting with the United Nations itself; effective resumption of the North-South dialogue with the understanding that the launching of global negotiations will be a demonstration of everyone's desire to fulfill the aspirations of the majority of nations; immediate and concrete actions -- without detriment to the resumption of the North-South dialogue -- regarding the most burning issues that are posing short-term threats to the international community.

Mr President, I convey my best wishes that the efforts of this UNGA will be crowned with success. I urge the representatives of the nations that have gathered here to fully assume the historical and nontrasferrable responsibility to fulfill the expectations of those who founded this organization in 1945 and to build for the generations to come a long period of peace and development.

We are on the threshold of a new world. May God permit that, through our efforts, it will also be a better world. I can assure you that Brazil is prepared to do its share in this undertaking. Thank you very much. [strong applause]

POLICE DISPERSE GROUP DEMANDING EXILES' RETURN

PY240336 Paris AFP in Spanish 2358 GMT 23 Sep 82

[Text] Santiago, 23 Sep (AFP) -- Witnesses to the incident disclosed that a group of demonstrators demanding the return to Chile of those living in exile were dispersed today by the police, who arrested nine students at a plaza in downtown Santiago.

Before the police arrived at the Baquedano Plaza, the meeting's organizers read out a declaration voicing their will to cooperate in order to help those living in exile return and to reestablish the unity of the Chilean family.

Among the demonstrators was Fernando Castillo Velasco, former rector of the Chilean University and brother of Jaime Castillo, president of the Chilean Human Rights Commission, who started a hunger strike at the university parish in Caracas, Venezuela.

Today's demonstration, of which several intellectuals, students and relatives of those living in exile took part, is part of the program organized by Catholic and humanitarian organizations aimed at achieving the return of those who have had to leave Chile during the past 9 years for political reasons.

These sectors of the opposition of President Pinochet's regime estimate that Chileans living in exile in various countries number 100,000.

BRIEFS

RADAR NETWORK -- Punta Arenas, Chile, 23 Sep (AFP) -- An official newspaper has reported that Chile is going to install a radar network in the Strait of Magellan to provide greater security to merchant ships and to Chilean pilots who share the command of foreign ships. The system will be installed by the Maritime Territory Directorate, which is under the Chilean Navy and will have its headquarters in Punta Arenas. The first step of the construction will require an investment of $1 million. [Paris AFP in Spanish 1647 GMT 23 Sep 82 PY]

AMBASSADOR TO BURMA -- Santiago, 14 Sep (LATIN) -- The Burmese Government has agreed to the designation of Tomas Vasquez Flores as the new Chilean ambassador to Burma. Vasquez Flores is currently serving as Chilean ambassador to India. [Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 0224 GMT 15 Sep 82 PY]

AMBASSADOR TO FINLAND -- The Finnish Government has granted its approval for Jorge Guzman to act as concurrent Chilean ambassador to Finland. Guzman is ambassador to Sweden, where he has his headquarters. [Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 1030 GMT 21 Sep 82 PY]

OPPOSITION PARTIES SEEK ELIMINATION OF MAS

PA262305 Bogota Cadena Radial Super in Spanish 1730 GMT 26 Sep 82

[Text] The opposition parties firmly believe that if the government wants to achieve peace, it first must dismantle or otherwise terminate the paramilitary group called Death to Kidnappers, MAS.

Socorro Ramirez, former presidential candidate, member of the Peace Commission and a guest at the foreign minister's political meetings, said that she will ask the improvements committee to unmask and identify the members of MAS, particularly if the Peace Commission really want to achieve a tranquil atmosphere for Colombia.

[Begin Ramirez recording] A general amnesty law would be worthless if paramilitary organizations such as MAS were not dismantled at the same time, since without these measures there would be no guarantee for the guerrillas who agree to a legal life, even of their right to live. It will therefore be suggested that this be done, as well as that those who are involved in the amnesty issue be permitted to participate in the discussions, we will insist on both during the Peace Commission's meetings. [end recording]

Earlier, the 19 April Movement, M-19, made this same request through Ramiro Lucio Escobar, its spokesman at the first political meeting. Shortly after a professor at the university was murdered, President Betancur requested that a struggle be launched against MAS and that its members be captured. It only remains for the people to cooperate by identifying the members of the group.

HAVANA; 15 M-19 MEMBERS REPORTEDLY RELEASED

PA280023 Havana International Service in Spanish 1800 GMT 26 Sep 82

[Text] According to a dispatch received from Bogota, 15 members of the 19 April Movement [M-19] have been released as a result of the end of the state of siege in Colombia. Andres Almalarez Manga and (Jose Navarro Wolfe), two members of the M-19's national leadership, are among those who were released. On leaving La Picota jail on Friday, the revolutionaries announced that they will continue to fight for democracy and for their fellow citizens' welfare.

Meanwhile, Carlos Toledo Plata, a former parliamentarian and a member of the M-19 higher command who is still in jail, has told newsmen that both the Colombian Congress and the government have expressed a willingness to grant a general amnesty. The Colombian National Congress will begin to discuss a general amnesty bill next Tuesday. Only crimes such as killing outside of combat would be excluded from this bill.

The Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia, the country's oldest guerrilla organization, have also announced a willingness to agree to a general amnesty.

DEMARCATION TALKS WITH VENEZUELA SUSPENDED

PA262200 Bogota Cadena Radial Super in Spanish 1730 GMT 26 Sep 82

[Text] Bogota -- Colombian Foreign Minister Rodrigo Lloreda Caicedo has said that the Venezuela's domestic political situation has forced the two countries to suspend their talks on the demarcation of marine and submarine areas in the Gulf of Venezuela for the time being. In view of this situation, the Colombian Government cannot force or demand a new session of talks, because both sides are required for negotiations and the Venezuelans evidently are facing political difficulties at the moment and cannot continue the talks, Lloreda Caicedo said.

The foreign minister added that the postponement of the talks was not agreed on by the two governments, but said that current conditions are not favorable for negotiations.

GOVERNMENT COUNTERING NATIONAL TRANSIT STRIKE

PA271515 Quito Voz de los Andes in Spanish 1130 GMT 27 Sep 82

[Excerpts] The National Federation of Professional Drivers of Ecuador [Federacion Nacional de Choferes Profesionales del Ecuador, FNCE] rejected the government's offer during the meetings held yesterday with the government minister. In Quito, 900 vehicles belonging to the armed forces and government offices will be mobilized to counteract the drivers' strike. In the provinces, private firms will provide transportation services with the armed forces in control of highways.

The strike decreed by the FNCE began today at 0000. Its purpose is to protest the government's refusal to authorize a 50-percent increase in fares. However, the citizens in general and several production sectors have come out against this attitude of the transport owners because of the inconveniences caused by the strike and the poor conditions under which transportation services are rendered throughout the country. Even the FNCE is split on the issue.

Through its offices across the country, the National Traffic Council [Consejo Nacional de Transito] implemented a number of measures starting at 0000 today to ease the effects of the nationwide transporters strike. In Quito, urban transportation service is being provided by buses, vans, taxis and vehicles of the armed forces and other government offices. Thus, a total of 900 vehicles will be supplying regular services today.

In Guayaquil, the governor's office and the Guayas Transit Commission, with the cooperation of the military zone and the national police, have organized intercanton and interprovince transportation services in Guayas Province. The provincial transit councils in all other provincial capitals have taken appropriate steps to reduce the effects of the strike.

Three transport cooperatives and organizations which do not abide by FNCE directives will provide the various types of transportation service. Facilities for the transportation of heavy cargo, of which only 28 percent is controlled by the FNCE, will be used to supply food and fuel to all Ecuadorean cities. The police will protect vehicles on all of the country's highways.

Intercanton and interprovince transportation will be provided by companies, firms, cooperatives and precooperatives [precooperativas] not affiliated with the FNCE. The armed forces will control security on the country's highways, and permits have been granted to private transporters, who will provide the service at current interprovince transportation fares.

The FNCE, which today began an indefinite strike, is a powerful trade union. It was created in 1945 and currently has 107 affiliated unions at the provincial level and 20 unions at the national level. The federation groups the four leading branches of national transportation, that is, urban, heavy, interprovincial and taxi service, which jointly comprise over 200,000 members, according to information supplied by the drivers themselves. Unquestionably, these characteristics make the federation one of the strongest labor organizations in the country at the present time.

As is known, since the monetary devaluation decreed by President Oswaldo Hurtado on 12 May, the drivers have been pressuring the government into taking steps to increase national transportation fares by 50 percent. However, thus far the transporters have not received an answer from the government and have therefore decided to go on strike. In order to accept or reject the FNCE's demands, the government is waiting for reports from the National Chamber of Representatives and the National Traffic Council, which is headed by government under secretary (Vladimir Serrano).

PROTEST NOTE TO GUATEMALA ON BORDER INCIDENTS

FL271206 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 2200 GMT 25 Sep 82

[Text of note from Mexican Foreign Secretary Jorge Castaneda delivered to the Guatemalan foreign minister on 22 September by the Mexican ambassador to Guatemala]

[Text] Mexico City, 20 September 1982

Mr Minister:

I have the honor to refer to Your Excellency's kind note, number AM-16PE-2.4 dated 4 August 1982, in which you reply to my note of 16 July concerning the case of Mexican citizens Jesus Silva Mendo (viceconsul of the Mexican foreign service attached to the Mexican Consulate in Malacatan), Carlos Guadalupe Mendez Perez and Jose Luis Mendez Perez.

Your Excellency reiterates previous offers of an exhaustive and urgent investigation while at the same time stating that my government can rest assured that Guatemalan authorities will ensure that justice is correctly applied in the case of the three Mexicans mentioned above and in all cases where the law was violated.

Much to my regret I must point out that to this date my government has received no report about the outcome -- or at least the progress -- of the investigation so many times offered, despite my government providing in April sufficient data for the prompt elucidation of events.

The government of Mexico has shown, with concrete actions, its desire to maintain good relations with the Government of Guatemala and has offered its cooperation in various areas.

By contrast, the Guatemalan authorities have not only failed to satisfy the legitimate request of the Government of Mexico for an investigation of the circumstances surrounding the death of Silva Mendo and the Mendez Perez brothers; they have also carried out actions in recent weeks about which my government has learned with deep concern.

I speak, first, of the events of 2 August 1982 at 1300 when a brigade of the Mexican section of the International Border and Waters Commission which was clearing a border opening near monument 55 was fired upon by Guatemalan soldiers who had entered approximately 500 meters into Mexican territory.

The Mexican Embassy lodged a formal protest at the time concerning these events which constitute an aggression against the personnel of the Mexican section of the International Border and Waters Commission and a violation of Mexican territory.

Furthermore, on 31 August 1982, Guatemalan troops deployed themselves along the border near the area of La Hamaca. From that spot, they fired in the direction of Mexican territory, killing two communal landholders who were working their lands and a Guatemalan who was helping them.

In the earlier case, my government limited itself to lodging a formal protest through its ambassador in Guatemala. Now it feels justified in demanding satisfaction from Your Excellency's government. It requests, in particular, that clear and categorical instructions be issued to Guatemalan troops -- and paramilitary elements -- that operate on the border to scrupulously respect Mexican territory and abstain from carrying out incursions into Mexican territory or opening fire on people on the Mexican side of the border.

Both in this case and in that of Silva Mendo and the Mendez Perez brothers, my government also demands that the guilty parties be justly punished and it reserves the right to demand compensation from the Government of Guatemala. I take this opportunity to renew to Your Excellency the token of my highest and most distinguished esteem.

MEXICO DENIES OPENING TERRITORY TO GUERRILLAS

FL242044 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 2015 GMT 24 Sep 82

[Text] Mexico City, 24 Sep (NOTIMEX) -- The Mexican Secretariat of Foreign Relations today denied reports that Mexico had offered to be the destination of the Cinchoneros who are occupying a private building in San Pedro Sula, Honduras. Press reports had said that a Honduran spokesman, who indicated that he was not [as received] authorized to make statements, had asserted that Mexico and Panama were willing to allow the rebels, who are holding 41 people hostage, into their territory. The Mexican secretariat of Foreign Relations was laconic in its comment about the rumor: Negative.

PRESIDENT LOPEZ PORTILLO TO ADDRESS UN 1 OCT

PA241514 Mexico City International Service in Spanish 0200 GMT 24 Sep 82

[Text] The Chamber of Deputies today authorized President Jose Lopez Portillo to leave the country on 31 September [as heard].

At today's meeting, the chamber noted the importance of the president's visit to the UN General Assembly on 1 October to reaffirm Mexico's support for that organization and to present alternatives to face the adverse evolution of the world's economy.

The authorization says that it is urgent to call at the UN forum for the adoption of positive and efficient measures. It says that it is necessary to begin global negotiations that will make it possible to modify the current international economic order in an effort to effect the policies agreed at the North-South chiefs of state meeting in Cancun 1 year ago.

The Chamber of Deputies also authorized the president to visit the Dominican Republic on 11 and 12 October to reaffirm the ties of friendship that exist between the two countries.

UK DEPUTY FOREIGN SECRETARY ON REGIONAL ISSUES

FL251210 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 0312 GMT 25 Sep 82

[Text] Mexico City, 24 Sep (NOTIMEX) -- Britain's Deputy Foreign Secretary Cranley Onslow said at a press conference here today that his country is prepared to arrange for economic assistance in an effort to achieve a peaceful settlement of the Central American conflict.

He reiterated the British Government's position of refusing to negotiate sovereignty over the Malvinas Islands but conceded the possibility of discussing friendly relations with Argentina at the UN General Assembly.

He said the problems of Nicaragua, Honduras and El Salvador could be settled through an international agreement and, along this line, he said the British Government praised the Mexico-Venezuela initiative of exploring channels to bring about peace in the area.

He said that in his meetings with President Jose Lopez Portillo and President-elect Miguel de la Madrid, they had examined the mechanisms to provide assistance to Central America and bring peace and prosperity to the region.

Onslow today ended a 3-day official visit. He presided over a meeting of British ambassadors to Latin America and the Caribbean which reviewed British foreign policy in the region. The diplomat added that the 7-week undeclared war between England and Argentina over the Malvinas Islands had as a happy outcome the revision of British-Latin American relations.

He said Mexico is Britain's most important market in Latin America and therefore, he said: We would like to reestablish our previous role as one of its closest political and economic partners.

He stressed that the visit of Queen Elizabeth II and Prince Consort Philip, Duke of Edinburgh, slated for 17 February 1983, demontrates Britain's desire to strengthen its ties with Mexico.

He said he was confident that England and Mexico would overcome their economic problems and explained that among other deals, his country had invested $500 million in 90 joint ventures with Mexicans and had closed a contract with Sicartsa [as received] for 200 million pounds and would supply training equipment valued at 47 million pounds.

PRI NATIONAL COUNCIL BEGINS ANNUAL MEETING

PA261437 Mexico City International Service in Spanish 0200 GMT 24 Sep 82

[Text] The PRI National Council's annual meeting has begun. President Jose Lopez Portillo said today that the PRI is the party of the majority and has made it possible for our country to be ruled by an institutional government. Inaugurating the PRI National Council meeting in Mexico City today, the president said that the PRI continues making revolution from within the institutional government.

During his speech, PRI President Pedro Ojeda Paullada pointed out that political power is the expression of the people's will and that no other power should exist or attempt to force itself on the branches of government.

Ojeda Paullada also referred to President Lopez Portillo's upcoming speech at the United Nations General Assembly on 1 October. He said that as usual, Mexico's head of state will have the support of his party and the people.

PARTY CONSIDERS UNITY OF LEFTIST FORCES REMOTE

FL271642 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 2105 GMT 25 Sep 82

[Text] Mexico, 25 Sep (NOTIMEX) -- Ulises Martinez, official spokesman of the Revolutionary Workers Party (PRT), said today that the integration of the leftist forces into a single political party seems increasingly more remote.

He denied a possible alliance between the United Socialist Party of Mexico (PSUM) and the PRT, saying that the unification of these two forces will occur only after a single candidate is selected for a popularly elected office.

He said that this is not the time for the leftist groups to form a single front, and therefore each will continue the struggle alone.

Ulises Martinez emphasized that the PRT continues the struggle to recruit more sympathyzers and denied that the party had been declining after the last federal elections.

He said that new leadership cadres are being organized and proof of this is that candidates will be launched for the Veracruz and Chiapas mayoralities.

He said that the PRT will not have greater popular support until next year. That will be the moment when we will launch candidates for state governors, he said.

PRESIDENT RETURNS FROM TRIP TO COSTA RICA

PA271859 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1833 GMT 27 Sep 82

[Excerpts] Panama City, 27 Sep (ACAN-EFE) -- President Ricardo de la Espriella returned to Panama this morning at the end of a 48-hour visit to Costa Rica. De La Espriella arrived at mid-morning at the Torrijos Airport military terminal on the outskirts of the capital and immediately went by helicopter to the Palace of the Herons (presidential palace), where he went back to work.

CINCHONEROS DEPART FOR CUBA ON PANAMANIAN PLANE

PA281249 Panama City Radio Exitosa in Spanish 1056 GMT 28 Sep 82

[Text] The twelve members of the Cinchonero popular liberation movement who arrived in Panama on Saturday and who were lodged at the Tinajita Garrison until yesterday, left early this morning for Cuba in a Panamanian Air Force Plane.

The Cuban Government apparently failed to send the airplane that was expected to transport the Cinchonero guerrillas. For this reason, the air force took charge. It is not known what time they left, but the guerrillas are already on their way to Cuba.

GENERAL PAREDES ON CUBAN VISIT, OTHER ISSUES

PA260056 Panama City Televisora Nacional in Spanish 2300 GMT 25 Sep 82

[Luz Maria Noli interview with Gen Ruben Dario Paredes, commander in chief of the Panamanian National Guard, at the Holiday Inn in Panama City, on 25 September -- recorded]

[Text] [Question] General, as you were announcing yesterday at the Foreign Ministry that national security issues were discussed during a 6-hour meeting with members of Fidel Castro's strategy and policy office, a high-ranking Foreign Ministry official was saying that this was merely a goodwill mission. Sir, what were these Castro officials doing in Panama? Why was such a lengthy meeting held, the second of its kind in 2 days?

[Answer] That question interests me, because it permits me to clear up any confusion for the people that may have been created in the last 48 hours. The two things are not incompatible. This was a goodwill visit during which topics that are very sensitive, very serious, very harsh and very important for the region, and especially to us Panamanians, were discussed.

Commander Castro's envoys came here at our invitation because Castro and I wanted to meet, since we are both concerned about the area's situation. These gentlemen came here at Panama's invitation. They are officials at the highest level within the Cuban Government. They brought me a very intimate and personal note from Dr Castro. The terms of the note are very good, cordial and very respectful. As the note is somewhat personal, I am not releasing it for publication, but it is of great value for Panama, for this country, which is what we are interested in.

In short, the message that the Cuban delegation is taking back to Cuba for Fidel Castro, says that we Panamanians, both the men in uniform and civilians, the Panamanian people, want to see a return of complete normalcy in the Central American and Caribbean area. We want the social peace that we need so that in the year 2000 -- which is close at hand, even though it sounds like a distant date -- the Americans won't have any excuse for remaining a single day, a single hour beyond that established in the Torrijos-Carter treaty.

If the instability that prevails in the area today continues to spread, if it continues to take over in the fraternal Central American countries -- some of which are currently engaged in war, while others have already fallen and still another has declared itself communist or socialist -- if that instability continues to advance, it would be very easy for certain countries that are interested in having this canal, which serves the world's merchant marine, always available for expeditious passage from one sea to another -- it would be very easy for them to say in the year 2000 that the canal can't be returned to the Panamanians because there is no security, because there is a very dangerous situation in the area and because Panama is not only a small nation but its armed forces are small and modestly armed and it would be dangerous to leave the Panamanians alone with the canal. The very signatories that supported us at the OAS when Torrijos signed the treaty with Carter might possibly share in this belief. So we told Dr Castro through these gentlemen that true friendship, a true diplomatic relationship, based on good will between our two people and governments requires that they begin to realize that this Central American situation can harm us in the very near future and that we are interested in recovering peace and normalcy.

This is how I would finish my response to your question: There are problems in Central America. The peoples' wishes to seek their own solutions, the best paths they can find, cannot be stopped. This is the truth. There are many maladjustments, there is much social injustice. There is a huge chasm separating the various classes. I studied in Nicaragua and I experienced this there. I have observed similar situations in El Salvador and in other countries such as Honduras and Guatemala. There is a great distance between classes in Central America. Some men still have to bow their heads before their masters or bosses. Some men and women must remove their shoes to enter the houses of the well-to-do. This does not take place here.

The Central American peoples' rebellion is legitimate, because they have lost all hope. This is a real situation. However, the members of the General Staff and I myself feel that this situation is being exploited with great interest by the power that opposes the United States; by this I mean the Soviet Union. Solutions should be sought by the peoples in their own way. They should be negotiated solutions, political solutions. These peoples should decide at the polls what they want, and systems that these peoples don't want, such as socialist or communist systems, should not be imposed on them. This was the message that we sent to Dr Castro. The visiting mission understood this very well. I saw legitimate concern among them. Future developments will confirm whether my (?appreciation), or the impression I received, is right. They told me that they believe the idea that a negotiated solution should begin to take place in the countries located near Panama is a correct one.

[Question] For the Panamanian people, the presence of these gentlemen seemed to have a different meaning at this point, when national developments are taking place very rapidly and when the president of the republic is scheduled to meet with Ronald Reagan in just 4 days. Certain sectors even expressed a genuine fear to see individuals who are so closely connected with Castro come here to hold talks with representatives of our civilian and military powers. What would you say to all of this?

[Answer] We have decided that, from now on, nothing else will be done behind the people's backs. The people will be kept abreast of everything that occurs here. Naturally, when the community learns about certain things, its members are entitled to speculate and to express their views. Some become upset, others feel happy. I am referring, of course, to various topics, facts and developments. The fact is that there are other concurrent developments. The heads of the affected Central American countries have been coming to Panama recently. They are concerned and have sought audiences and appointments with us, and we have received them.

The coincidence resulting from their visits and our concern about our country and our canal led us to move the Cuban gentlemen's visit forward so that we could warn them of our serious concern and tell them that we felt that the 8 years of our diplomatic relations have been sincere, positive and respectful in both directions, but that we might interpret their disregard for our concern as an inconsiderate or careless gesture toward our people, toward us and toward all that we represent in the area, especially in light of the most recent changes in the area's situation, as with the case of Somoza, or rather the case of Nicaragua. There has been some disappointment over the course that those people have taken. Perhaps the course taken is the one desired by the majority of Nicaraguans, perhaps not. That would have to be demonstrated with a truly democratic system, through pure elections, which we hope the Nicaraguans will give to their people, to their 4 million inhabitants. Thus, a number of developments are taking place. The recent situation in San Pedro Sula indicated that the situation in Honduras is already deteriorating. There are problems right now in Guatemala, what with the execution staged at a cemetery, where the grave was already prepared before those who were to be executed and where spectators were present. All of these things point to the fact that here in Latin America -- and in the rest of the world, but we are more concerned over what is happening near us -- markedly abnormal situations are taking place. This should worry us since we may be affected by these situations.

[Question] Commander, there is something I would like to ask you. You represent the group that overthrew Dr Arnulfo Arias Madrid on 11 October 1968. You removed him from the presidency. However, you and De La Espriella have invited him to the presidency for dinner. As if that were not enough, all of a sudden, you and your wives attended a luncheon marked by concord, a social luncheon hosted by Dr Arias. Sir, if for the past 14 years you have been telling us and the troops that Dr Arias was the cause of the coup staged on 11 October, how do you justify this? How do you explain the fact that you held a private 15-minute talk with Dr Arias, the substance of which has been disclosed to no one?

[Answer] Well, Miss Noli, everything changes, countries evolve. The important thing is that the leaders or rulers of these countries gradually come to understand that changes do occur. Today's world is changing at a dizzying pace. Those leaders who do not change or stay with that pace are left behind and their peoples overtake them. Chaos then ensues. The minute that Dr Arias retured to the country, while Torrijos was still alive, it became evident that not only he, but all who were in exile were free to return. There is not a single individual, a single Panamanian, a single lady, who is still in exile. Anyone who is abroad is there simply because he or she wants to be. There isn't a single armed man in Panama's mountains. Dr Arias returned several years ago, became involved in the nation's life and maintained a low political profile. Eventually, he began to make public appearances and to show signs of participating in the democratization process. He is a citizen with all of the rights established in the Constitution, just like you and me. After the most recent change, when President de la Espriella replaced President Royo, President de la Espriella invited us to a dinner, Dr Arias, who was the president's guest of honor, had no objection of my presence on the two occasions. I was invited both times and I was very pleased to attend. Why did I attend? Because I felt certain that he, Dr Arias, was acting with political courage, which characterizes him as a great Panamanian. When Dr Arias first became president, I was 6 years old. The night of the dinner, the night of the first invitation, was the first time in my life that I actually saw him. During that private 15-minute chat -- and it was no more than that, 15 minutes -- we discussed intimate things which I can nevertheless disclose. For instance, I expected him to tell me: Look young man, go back to your headquarters, or something like that.

But no, he told me instead that he thought I was a man with good intentions and healthy aspirations for the homeland. When I asked him what he recommended that I do under the current circumstances, he, being such an experienced man, told me: Do whatever your conscience tells you to do. Go with your conscience to the very end, but always think of the Panamanian people and about the homeland. That, in short, was the gist of our conversation. We did not discuss the political parties, the Panamenist Party or any other party or candidacy, or anything like that. As a commander, I merely asked a question of an experienced man. I would say that Dr Arias is the politician of the last 50 years. But for me, Omar Torrijos is the leader of the last few years. I make this distinction because Dr Arias has great political force. He reached the presidency on three occasions, but many things with which I am not even familiar -- as I said earlier, I was only 6 years old when he first became president -- kept him from ruling. Although he was never president, Torrijos became something very similar, he became a head of government. He became a head of government and he led. He was a good leader and had many victories, including the recovery of the canal belt and several other social victories that made it possible for us to enjoy peace today.

As for the first part of your question -- your statement that I was in the 1968 group that overthrew Dr Arias -- that is true, I was in that group. I was a captain at the time. Soon thereafter I became a major and shortly after that, I became a lieutenant colonel because many changes were taking place at the time. There were mini-coups as well, which everybody remembers; we went to Mexico and all of that. But the country changes. The people of 1968 were not today's people. The National Guard of 1968 was not the National Guard that we have today, which I am very proud to lead. The media -- the papers, the radio and television -- of 1968 were not the same as today's great media. Everything has changed.

Finally, I would tell you, Miss Noli, that on the two occasions that I met with Dr Arias, I noticed -- this is something that my conscience tells me -- that he has good intentions and that he has a positive desire to help the country either remain the way it is or improve. Dr Arias told me in Arco Iris, in Boquete, that Central America is very confused and that we Panamanians should be united. I noticed his good intentions and I stell feel this way about him.

Beside him is a young woman, his wife, upon whom he will depend enormously, because she is like his guardian. Dr Arias will be approached by individuals with personal political desires or intentions, even if this means his prompt demise because perhaps they will force him to engage in or will try to lead him into certain adventures. I also noticed that he no longer wishes to engage in such adventures. Dr Arias' wife -- and this impressed me favorably -- seems to be an honest woman from the region of Azuero. Apparently, she will have a very important role to play from now on. I hope she succeeds.

[Question] Let's briefly go back to specific things, such as the PRD [Democratic Revolutionary Party] and the National Guard. On the one hand, [PRD Secretary General] Dr Ernesto Balladares announced at a news conference that the PRD was becoming a party critical of the administration. After that, a meeting was held in Rio Hato, which everybody questions and some criticize, in the wake of which PRD President Berta de Arosemena announced that the National Guard was once again hand in hand with the PRD. When had they not been hand in hand? How can all this be explained?

[Answer] We have been speaking sincerely for a long time now and I will continue to speak in this manner until the end of my public life. If the National Guard were to announce today that the PRD is not a part of this Torrijist process, I would feel ashamed, I would not be an honorable man or a man of principle. I feel, however, that I am a man of principle. Everybody knows how the PRD originated. Everybody in this country knows why the National Guard rose to power in 1968.

During these 14 years, the PRD was organized and this coincided with the democratic opening so that the PRD could participate in the elections, competing with the opposition parties. So, if we were to say that we are not allied forces, we would be insincere and dishonest men.

The PRD is an offshoot of the revolutionary process. It is Omar Torrijos' creation. That is a fact. That is the truth. However, this alliance, which stems from its creation and origin, is not unconditional. In other words, if some time in the future the PRD wants to take some course of its choice, it can do so, it is free to do so. The National Guard, however, cannot change its course. The National Guard's path lies beside the entire Panamanian people, beside all the tendencies, all the individuals, all the women, all Panamanians. The National Guard belongs to the people. At a political moment, during an election, we can favor neither the PRD or any other party. We must stay in the middle, as the great arbiters do.

This is why we said on a previous occasion that perhaps the constitutional amendments might include some provision on whether we, the members of the National Guard, should vote in an election. This would be firm and clear evidence that we are in the middle, watching over order and protecting the legitimate victory of those who win. Some say that Mrs Berta has said one thing, that Colonel Diaz has said something different. I would say: judge us. Judge us by our actions rather than by our words. Our actions, especially our most recent steps, clearly indicate that they are all being carried out in good faith. They are all aimed at a great national unity.

Some Panamanians allege that they do not agree with the idea of a national unity. I feel that those Panamanians are enemies of the people. Whoever wants to divide the people is their enemy. We believe that we must seek a great national unity. Unity must be promoted. At the time of the elections, at the time of the final test, you will find a completely impartial National Guard, the way we have often promised.

[Question] The meetings held with the reprsentatives of the others politial parties, therefore, have never meant alliances?

[Answer] What political parties are you talking about?

[Question] I am talking about the Liberal Party, the Christian Democracy, the opposition parties, the traditional opposition parties.

[Answer] I have held very few talks with the representatives of other parties. I have, nontheless, held personal talks with members of the opposition and we have discussed political issues. At no time, however, have we reached any kind of agreement. to all of them -- those who have either approached or called me -- I have guarnateed that pure, free and orderly elections will be held in this country. But I have never held any meeting as the representative of any one party, or met at a party level to discuss party affairs.

[Question] A short while ago you mentioned constitutional amendments and said something about the possibility that men in uniform might abstain from voting. I would like to hear your view on constitutional amendments, your feelings about National Guard members being deprived of one of their civic rights, especially if, as is being said, you yourself want to exercise them?

[Answer] I think that the constitution should be amended. Last Sunday, Diogenes de la Rosa published a very clear and objective article on this matter. I completely share his views, as expressed in that article. I have not seen De La Rosa for about 8 or 9 months, but the article caught my attention and I read it in one of the local newspapers. The Constitution should be amended. What he said is true: constitutions are not written for eternity, they must gradually change. I said earlier that the world is moving toward change at a dizzying pace. We have to move along. It has been shown that our people want to elect their own president through direct, popular vote. The amendment is no problem. That has already been organized.

Like many other Panamanians, I would also like every legislator to be elected through the popular vote. That is the desire of citizens, but that must be tested. It must be seen whether this desire is shared by our 2 million inhabitants. Perhaps then we would have to hold a referendum. The referendum would clash somewhat with the 1972 Constitution, because it does not mention referendums as the means to introduce amendments. The constitutional system to introduce constitutional amendments involves the present assembly of 505 representatives. This would be ratified by the next assembly, the one that would emerge in 1984. This would be a long, a very long process.

This would be the first objection: It would take too long. The second objection is that for perfectly understandable reasons, it will be difficult for the assembly to eliminate its own conquests. I would say "apparent" conquests, and I would underline this: they are "apparent" conquests. This is a very serious topic, for the Constitution, the carta magna, represents a country's rails, since the rules of the game, the rules of coexistence, are established in it and the Constitution reflects a people's force. So this task cannot fall only to the 505 representatives. This must be subjected to the people's will so that the people can say whether or not they want the amendments that the commission appointed by the executive branch finally recommends.

I hope that this will be done soon. The people must say either yes or no. We will know then that everyone had the chance to say either yes or no. I am sure that the very assembly members, the 505 representatives -- by the way, I think this representative system should continue, I would like to make this clear -- will be the one to recommend to the executive branch that a referendum be held to do this. I think the present assembly can do it.

[Question] Why have you said nothing about the highly-publicized and controversial social security case?

[Answer] Well, there had been no opportunity to do it. Nobody had interviewed me in this connection. However, certain developments show that we do not agree with the social security developments. We are giving all our support to the attorney general and to District Attorney Cuesta. A great friend of ours, the founder of this government at its outset, Dr [Abraham] Saied, is currently detained. I feel very sorry about this. But this shows you that personal and sentimental things are beneath the homeland's interest, the national interests. We support the effort to bring order to social security. As a member of the National Guard, we are supporting this effort to the very final consequences. The authorities I have just mentioned can tell you -- because this is something we have discussed -- that they have received our total support to conduct this investigation to its very end.

STATION CRITICIZES MEETING WITH CUBAN OFFICIALS

PA241641 Panama City Radio Mia Network in Spanish 1136 GMT 24 Sep 82

[Station commentary: "Disrupters of the Peace"]

[Text] Yesterday morning on occasion of a canceled news conference by Gen Ruben Dario Paredes and his General Staff in a well-known residence on 50th Street in Panama City, those of us who were present witnessed an event which not only offends our convictions as free men but which, in our view, harms the climate of peace and calm that has prevailed in the country for the past few months.

In full sight of the surprised newsmen who had gone to the house on 50th Street to hear General Paredes, who for unknown reasons did not show up, a group of leaders of the Cuban communist Government entered the house accompanied by several members of the National Guard General Staff. We do not know whether this event was unexpected or planned. It seemed to us that it was a surprise visit by the Cuban communist leaders.

However, the way that yesterday's event took place is not the most important thing. What is worrisome is the very essence of the apparently cordial visit of representatives of a regime that contradicts the traditions of people like those of Panama who have only known democratic life. This is still more surprising when we know that the group of communists which arrived at the house included leaders of the Fidel Castro regime who have on their conscience the death and blood of many of their own brothers. It is no secret that men such as those accompanying our officers yesterday have been educated in the school of crime, secrecy and espionage. It is also no secret that Cuba has learned the most sophisticated strategies of interference in the domestic affairs of other countries and that the Cubans' mere presence in our country is cause for concern by those of us who live in a free and democratic country.

Neither is it a secret that since Gen Ruben Dario Paredes became National Guard commander, the country began to walk on the path of democracy and to breathe freedom. The isthmian nation began to recover its faith and confidence in the future of free enterprise, freedom of expression and the destiny of our people. Nevertheless, there is no doubt that events such as yesterday's tarnish that faith and cause one to meditate on what is truly occurring in the national government.

We cannot deny that we have diplomatic relations with Cuba and that, as a civilized nation, protocol demands that we treat its people well. In the same way, we cannot remain isolated in a dark room, refusing to talk with those who do not agree with our government system. Nevertheless, the presence of leaders of the bloody Cuban regime who unquestionably come to disrupt our well-earned social peace is cause for concern. Our social peace has been achieved without shedding a drop of blood, without the classic executions or the horrible crimes that have shaken the history of the American Continent.

We also know that the Cuban leaders have enjoyed the broadest opportunities in Panama to sow the seed of communism in our soil. We are not unaware of the fact that for 10 years, Panama did its best to help the establishment of a beachhead on our isthmus, a very harmful beachhead in our country. For this reason, with the turn of events promoted by General Paredes, the Cubans have felt great concern and even nostalgia that such a strategic nation has begun to leave its orbit and ignore its designs.

What were the Cuban leaders doing yesterday with local leftwing leaders and senior National Guard officers? The Panamanian people demand a explanation from the national government. They demand that the government ecplain whether Panama's democratization is serious or if it is just a promise that will not be kept due to behind-the-scenes agreements that will subsequently distort our democratic traditions and freedom. If we previously solved our problems with dialogue and without bloodshed, we must continue to use that method without permitting the interference of leaders of countries that have massacred their brothers without hesitation.

The Panamanian people continue to trust that by their prudence and evenhandedness, Brig Gen Ruben Dario Paredes and President Ricardo de la Espriella will keep foreign doctrines from entering our hearts to seriously wound them as could be the case with the Cuban communist leaders' visit to our country.

BRIEFS

CONADESOPAZ CONGRESS -- The second congress of the National Committee for the Defense of Sovereignty and peace (Conadesopaz) denounced here the systematic violation of human rights of political prisoners in Colombia and the threats to the security of five Panamanians confined in several Colombian army prisons. [Panama City LA PRENSA in Spanish 19 Sep 82 p 1A PA]

BELIZE

MINISTRY LIMITS PLANE FUEL SALE IN ANTIDRUG MOVE

PA240250 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1604 GMT 23 Sep 82

[Text] Belmopan, 23 Sep (ACAN-EFE) -- The Commerce and Industry Ministry of Belize has implemented regulations on the sale of airplane fuel as part of an intensive antidrug campaign.

Belizean authorities reported today that a special regulation to control the entry and exit of airplanes, which are usually used for the marijuana traffic, provides that fuel that is sold will be pumped directly from tanks to the airplane or light aircraft by authorized personnel in quantities for specific distances.

The ministry said that the measure is designed to keep out light planes, which are flown from the United States to Belize to pick up shipments of marijuana.

The ministry added that experience has shown that these aircraft refuel illegally in Belize, which makes it easier for them to carry on the drug traffic.

COSTA RICA

MONGE, DE LA ESPRIELLA HOLD NEWS CONFERENCE

PA262020 Panama City Domestic Service in Spanish 1735 GMT 26 Sep 82

[News conference by Costa Rican President Luis Alberto Monge and Panamanian President Richardo de la Espriella at the Foreign Ministry in San Jose, Costa Rica, following the signing of a joint communique; broadcast simultaneously by the San Jose and Panama City domestic services -- live]

[Excerpts] [Question] (Eduardo Enrique Leiva) of Radio Monumental [of San Jose]. President de la Espriella: In this document [the joint communique], the two of you condemn terrorism. Honduras was recently shaken by a terrorist attack, and Panama has received these guerrillas. As long as terrorists have the help of other countries to carry out this type of attacks they will continue to perpetrate them. What is Panama going to do about these guerrillas who have been granted asylum there?

[De La Espriella] First of all, let me clarify that our country has not given them political asylum. Second, we have not helped the guerrillas. We have helped the Honduran Government resolve a serious problem it had on its hands. We have always offered Panama as a mediator, and our territory to the parties to any conflict, to be used for meetings, as a neutral country, for them to seek solutions to their problems. Panama will continue to follow this line.

We received a telephone call from Honduran President Suazo asking us to receive these gentlemen in transit to help him solve a problem, and we believe that, for the sake of peace in the region, we should offer this type of cooperation.

[Question] (Cristobal Sarmiento) of the [Panama City] newspaper YA. President Monge: I was told here in San Jose that Costa Rica's foreign debt is 8 billion [currency not specified]. My question is: First, is this figure accurate, and second, what steps is your government taking to solve the serious economic problems Costa Rica is currently facing?

[Monge] The figure you mention is not accurate. Our public foreign debt amounts to 3 billion, and our private foreign debt is more or less 1 billion, which totals 4 billion [currency not specified]. This figure in itself is staggeringly high. Unfortunately, at the present time Costa Rica is one of the most heavily-indebted nations in the world.

The steps we have taken to face this debt have entailed great sacrifices for our country. They are linked to the negotiations with the IMF, and we have advanced only a few small paces with our creditors, because to reach definitive agreements with them we must first reach an agreement with the IMF. This is inevitable.

However, we have already held some preliminary talks and we have been making the great sacrifice of paying $6 million monthly on the interest of the public foreign debt. By doing so we have somewhat alleviated the pressure and mistrust in international financial circles which were caused by Costa Rica not making any payments whatsoever on its debts abroad. In August 1981, even the payments of interest on our foreign debt were suspended. We are currently trying to reach agreements, and I believe that we will.

[Question] (Jose Melendez) of the Mexico City newspaper EXCELSIOR. I have a question for the Panamanian president: Do you believe that due to the grave political, economic and military problems in Central America there will be a heightened U.S. military presence in the Panama Canal area?

[De La Espriella] That might definitely come about. In the Torrijos-Carter treaties the defense of the canal is in the hands of the U.S. military. If the conflicts were to become radicalized such a result might indeed occur.

[Question] Migdalia Fuentes of the Panama City newspaper LA PRENSA. I would like to ask the Costa Rican president if he believes, after holding office for almost a year, that the Costa Rican Government has stabilized; and is there any possibility of a coup d'etat or another crisis, as was mentioned earlier?

Also along the lines of the question asked by the newsman from the newspaper LA NACION, I would like to ask the Panamanian president if the joint communique against the countries that are promoting an arms race is a call to Cuba and Nicaragua, the two countries that have been accused of engaging in an arms buildup.

[Monge] My government has not been in power for a year. It has been in power for only 4 months, although it might seem like a year to some. [laughter] I'm sorry, but would you repeat the question?

[Fuentes] Has the government stabilized since you came to power?

[Monge] We do not have any of the necessary conditions here for a coup d'etat. Neither are there conditions locally for terrorism or for guerrillas. I must state, however, that there are international forces that are interested in encouraging subversion and terrorism in our country. Long before I took over the government we said -- and we sent pertinent messages to those political leaders whom we felt should receive them -- that if the phenomenon of terrorism or of guerrillas was to crop up in Costa Rica, we would have to blame determined foreign political forces for its appearance here.

For the time being we have prevented several attempts at destabilization; not so much through the wisdom of the government but thanks to the wisdom of the people, who have not responded to instigation that is based on the country's economic and social crisis. Despite the difficult situation that the Costa Rican people are experiencing, we hope that they will continue to behave wisely, until the production and export programs begin to bear fruit and to alleviate, at least a little bit, the difficult situation that they are undergoing.

Therefore, there is no possibility of a coup d'etat for the time being, and the Costa Rican people are solidly supporting this government, to try to keep us from succumbing to the threat of guerrillas and terrorism.

[De La Espriella] Migdalia, to be very categorical, whenever a country arms itself beyond what is required to maintain order, its neighbors grow concerned and might begin to do likewise. I believe, in answer to your question, that Nicaragua is armed, and is arming itself, more than is necessary to maintain internal order. This is my opinion.

As a result of this, the area's other countries worry and may try to do the same thing. This will not lead us to peaceful solutions, and we will not be using dialogue properly to solve the region's problems.

We are indeed concerned over the Nicaraguan Government's excessive arms buildup.

[Question] (Ellen Maria Mojica) of the Cadena Lider of Colombia. My question is for the president of Panama. Mr President: The international press has very little confidence in your government, due to the presumed silent coup d'etat against Aristides Royo. What sort of democratization process are you going to guarantee to convince us that this is not just another dictatorship in Panama?

[Answer] The facts speak for themselves. I said earlier that words can be very beautiful, but they can also be empty. However, our commitment to the Panamanian political parties is to set up an electoral court that the Panamanian people can have confidence in. We have already taken the initial steps in this regard.

We have also committed ourselves to make some reforms to the Constitution, so that the people and the political parties can be even more certain that their democratic participation will be complete and will be taken into account. We are trying to achieve this. Thus, only time and events will tell.

Further De La Espriella Comments

PA271925 Panama City Televisora Nacional in Spanish 1200 GMT 27 Sep 82

[Hector Donadio Carrillo interview with President Ricardo de la Espriella at the Costa Rican Foreign Ministry; presumably on 26 September -- recorded]

[Excerpt] [Question] Mr President, there have been many rumors circulating through the media regarding the meeting of a high-ranking Cuban delegation with Panamanian officials. What can you tell us about this?

[Answer] This Cuban delegation came following a special invitation by General Paredes to clarify and talk about the problems experienced in Central America and the participation of the Cuban Government in these problems. They discussed the matter quite broadly and we informed them of our concern regarding the political situation in Central America.

[Question] Mr President, you have said that you do not agree with the arms buildup in Nicaragua. Does this mean that relations between Panama and Nicaragua are cooling off?

[Answer] No. I don't think that, because I have told a friendly government our opinion, there should be a cooling off. We respect the self-determination of peoples, but respecting it does not mean that we cannot give our opinion regarding what is happening. We believe that Nicaragua has armed itself beyond its security needs, and this is our opinion. They may have their reasons for doing this, and I believe they have publicly said why they are doing it.

The problem is that when a country gets armed and has differences with others, the others will, in turn, arm themselves, and this does not lead to peaceful solutions. This aggravates the situation and can result in greater violence. It could also get us involved in the issue, because the canal is in the area, and the neutrality of the canal is of vital importance.

The arms buildup in Nicaragua concerns us for these reasons. We don't know if they truly feel that their peace is endangered, but what is clear is that, once they arm themselves and once the other neighboring countries arm themselves, we are playing the game of the two superpowers, who are actually the ones disputing their interests in the area.

PANAMANIAN PRESIDENT ENDS VISIT, LEAVES FOR HOME

PA271840 Paris AFP in Spanish 1608 GMT 27 Sep 82

[Text] San Jose, 27 Sep (AFP) -- Panamanian President Ricardo de la Espriella left today for his country 2 hours before his scheduled departure, following a 2-day official visit to Costa Rica.

De La Espriella, who together with Costa Rican President Luis Alberto Monge signed a joint communique supporting the Mexican and Venezuelan president's initiative to seek peaceful solutions for the region, was seen off at the airport by his Costa Rican counterpart, but without the normal protocol called for on these occasions. No explanation was given for the Panamanian president's early departure, and the reporters found about this only after their arrival at the airport when De La Espriella was already enroute to Panama.

The committee that accompanied the Panamanian president, made up by Foreign Minister Juan Jose Amado and some ministers, according to the official program, left yesterday afternoon, while the president left this morning. No explanations were given as to why the president extended his visit.

OIJ UNCOVERS FORMER SOMOZA GUARDSMEN'S GROUP

PA241741 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 2010 GMT 23 Sep 82

[Text] San Jose, 23 Sep (ACAN-EFE) -- Costa Rican investigation authorities have uncovered a clandestine organization of former Nicaraguan National Guardsmen under Anastasio Somoza and have arrested several of its leaders in this capital.

Policemen from the Judicial Investigation Organization, OIJ, were investigating a murder which took place early this year when they found out that the suspects are Nicaraguans who belonged to the now defunct National Guard.

Alberto Toruno Herrera, 27, and Denis Peneda Carcamo, 25, are now under arrest. According to information revealed here today, a third suspect, Marlos Blandon, is currently in Honduras.

Authorities said that those arrested confessed to the crime, because the dead man, Azarias Pallais Sacasa, "collaborated with other enemy groups."

In their statements the arrestees explain that there are several groups of former Somoza guardsmen, such as the "15 September Legion" and the anti-Sandinist organization led by Leopoldo Salvador Gutierrez Aviles (alias "Andras") and Mario Aviles.

OIJ officials stress that through searches and from the statements made by Pineda and Toruno, it has been shown that anti-Sandinist groups operate clandestinely in Costa Rica.

Among these groups is the "15 September Legion," which has branches in Honduras and Guatemala and has secure camps in Liberia, which is near the border with Nicaragua, and in San Jose.

The authorities seized organization stationary, maps, addresses and an important arms supply including rifles, submachineguns, revolvers and ammunition of various calibers.

Government Denial

PA252157 Paris AFP in Spanish 2036 GMT 24 Sep 82

[Text] San Jose, 24 Sep (AFP) -- Official sources have denied that there are any counter-revolutionary camps run by former Somozist troops in this country, despite the fact that two Nicaraguans who were arrested this week stressed that they are the primary commanders of the rightist and clandestine "15 September Legion" in Costa Rica.

This organization, created 4 years ago by soldiers from the defunct National Guard of Nicaragua, has 11,000 members in Latin America, 100 of whom are in Costa Rica, according to disclosures by Denis Pineda Carcamo and Alberto Toruno Herrera, both Nicaraguan. Initial reports on the arrest of the "commanders of the legion" revealed the existence of camps and safehouses used by the group; plans by the group to stage harassment actions against the Sandinist government late this year were also revealed in press reports here.

Public Secretary Ministry sources denied that there are any anti-Sandinist camps in Costa Rica right now, while admitting that there have been reports to this effect.

They noted that there could have been camps on the country's northern border with Nicaragua 3 months ago, but said that the authorities found only one in that region, which had been abandoned.

Similarly, Oscar Vidal, chief of the civil guard said that the prisoners' information has not been confirmed and that it is merely unsubstantiated rumor.

The Nicaraguans were arrested following a search carried out within investigations of the murder of Pallais Abdala, a Nicaraguan merchant, who used to work here as a moneychanger.

COUNCIL PLANS PERMANENT POLICIES FOR REFUGEES

PA261430 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1745 GMT 22 Sep 82

[Text] San Jose, 22 Sep (ACAN-EFE) -- The Costa Rican National Security Council has agreed to adopt a permanent policy to take care of the needs and problems of some 20,000 refugees who are in the country. This number is increasing because of the problems affecting neighboring nations.

Justice Minister Carlos Jose Guiterrez said today that they are going to set aside the temporary measures that were being applied to the refugees. In exchange, they will establish programs supported by international organizations and national institutes.

One of the measures to be implemented immediately seeks to integrate thousands of Central Americans who have sought refuge in Costa Rica into agroindustrial activities, in proportion to the demand for workers, so as not to displace local workers. Fifteen thousand Salvadoran refugees and some 5,000 from the other countries in the region, mainly Nicaragua, are currently in Costa Rica.

The Costa Rican Government has announced that it cannot handle all the refugees. It is now taking care of 10,000 of them, while the UN High Commission for Refugees is helping 6,000 more. The rest have to depend on their own resources and capacity for work.

EL SALVADOR

FRONT CHAIRMAN UNGO DENOUNCES U.S. POLICY

NC252122 Athens Domestic Service in Greek 1830 GMT 25 Sep 82

[Text] Guillermo Ungo, chairman of the El Salvador Revolutionary Democratic Front, gave a press conference in Athens today at which he denounced the policy the Reagan administration is applying in Central America. On this subject, Hellenic Radio and Television correspondent Pavlos Alepis reports:

Speaking about the situation in El Salvador, Guillermo Ungo stressed that the people [words indistinct] crisis. The country is being converted into a protectorate and the destroyed land and plantations [words indistinct] by a severe economic crisis that hits the people.

Mr Ungo said that the Reagan administration is strengthening the army of neighboring Honduras and that there is the danger of the conflict spreading throughout the area and getting completely out of control.

Our (?responsibility) is to proceed toward a dialogue in order to avoid international complications. However, we believe that at this time war is the only solution. We are waging a multi-sided battle and we are winning this battle with the support of everybody in the international arena once the political [words indistinct] is being isolated day by day.

Answering questions from newsmen, Mr Ungo denied the report that there was a war armistice even for a single week. He said that there is a small section of the Christian Democrats who can play a role toward the opening of the dialogue, but that the extreme rightwing, under the guidance of stratocrats, does not allow this. Mr Ungo further said that for the time being he considers as unlikely the prospect for a defense pact among the Latin American countries. He said: What is of urgency is to acquire a unified political front.

Kharilaos Florakis, secretary general of the KKE Central Committee, today had a meeting at the party offices with Guillermo Ungo.

RADIO VENCEROMOS REPORTS ON FMLN ACTIVITIES

Ungo Lauds Election Victors

PA232227 (Clandestine) Radio Venceremos in Spanish to El Salvador 0230 GMT 22 Sep 82

[Text] Guillermo Manuel Ungo, President of the Revolutionary Democratic Front [FDR], has sent a congratulatory telegram to Olof Palme, president of the Swedish Social Democratic Labor Party, for his resounding victory in his country's elections.

The Social Democratic Labor Party won his country's parliamentary elections on 19 September by a vast majority, leading this party back to power. This victory increases the number of governments that support the FDR.

Ungo is president of the National Revolutionary Movement [MNR] of El Salvador, a party that along with the Swedish party is a member of the Socialist International.

The text of this telegram is as follows: Warm congratulations on the great victory of the Social Democratic Labor Party in yesterday's elections. We are celebrating this important moment with you as a step forward in the progress of democratic socialism in our countries. We wish you the best of luck and offer you our warm solidarity. Fraternally, Guillermo Manuel Ungo, FDR president and MNR secretary general.

Ungo sent a similar telegram to Pierre Schori, international secretary of the Swedish Social Democratic Labor Party.

Flood Injuries Reported

PA240435 (Clandestine) Radio Venceremos in Spanish to El Salvador 0230 GMT 24 Sep 82

[Excerpt] Scenes of destruction, sorrow and uncertainty are the overall picture in the country as results of the constant heavy rains that have lashed the national territory since Friday. According to initial information so far, the losses, including damaged roads and general destruction of crops and agriculture installations, exceed 650 million colones. One-third of the corn crop, half the production of rice and beans and one-third of the cotton harvest have been destroyed.

In addition, over 1,500 persons have been reported injured in hospitals, while the number of homeless persons is estimated at 35,000 with over 3,000 houses destroyed and more than 15,000 seriously damaged.

Government Usulutan Offensive

PA261525 (Clandestine) Radio Venceremos in Spanish to El Salvador 0230 GMT 25 Sep 82

[Text] Attention, pay great attention, people of Usulutan Department, primarily in the area of Jucuaran and in [name indistinct]. Radio Ver eremos informs you that more troops were brought to Usulutan in two trains during the night. In addition, nine trucks with soldiers also arrived during the night.

The purpose of this mobilization is to launch an offensive on the Francisco Sanchez Southeastern Front.

We call on the towns, primarily in the area of Jucuaran and San Agustin Tres Calles, to be on the alert for any mobilization by the enemy. As it has done in other parts of the country, the enemy is trying to kill the civilian population in that area, as it did recently at San Pedro hill, San Vicente Department.

We call on everyone on the Francisco Sanchez Southeastern Front in the cantons of Usulutan Department to prepare and to be on the alert to this nocturnal operation by the genocidal army.

FMLN Recruitment Call

PA270042 (Clandestine) Radio Venceremos in Spanish to El Salvador 0230 GMT 26 Sep 82

[Text] The fascist dictatorship is increasing its repression of our people. Assassinations, arrests, abductions, raids, and forcible recruiting are some of the desperate maneuvers undertaken by the enemy in its futile attempt to quell the people's struggle.

Join the war fronts against the fascist repression. Close to you are zones under the FMLN's control. In Guazapa, Chalatenango, Chinchontepec volcano, San Pedro hill, San Agustin Tres Calles, near San Miguel, Jucuaran, near Santa Ana, throughout the Department of Morazan, very close to you, there is an FMLN camp. Join the war fronts against the fascist repression, as a radio operator, a teacher, a combatant, a militia member, a doctor, a nurse, a draftsman, a technician or a mechanic. We will all have a task to carry out. Join our war fronts.

On U.S. Advisers' Deaths

PA270127 (Clandestine) Radio Venceremos in Spanish to El Salvador 0230 GMT 26 Sep 82

[Text] The killers of Jose Rodolfo Viera and U.S. technicians have implicated certain National Guard officers. Two former national guardsmen, (Jose Dimas Valle) and (Gonzalo Gomez), who confessed to killing two U.S. agrarian reform advisers, claimed that the crimes were ordered by National Guard Lt (Rodolfo Isidro Lopez Fibrian) and by Capt (Alfonso Avila).

(Jose Dimas) testified at the trial that began 23-24 September, saying that Hans Christ, a wealthy landowner, specified for the former national guardsmen who they had to kill in the Sheraton Hotel dining room. On the day that the U.S. technicians were killed, Col (Mario Gomez Moran) and the commander of the National Guard intelligence service were with landowner Hans Christ.

Honduran Hostage Crisis

PA270234 (Clandestine) Radio Venceremos in Spanish to El Salvador 1400 GMT 26 Sep 82

[Text] At midday on Saturday, 25 September, an aircraft left for Panama carrying the Honduran patriots who held the wealthiest Honduran businessmen, managers of U.S. companies and government ministers of the regime hostage for more than week, in an action that was described as an overwhelming popular demonstration of rejection of the policy promoted by General Alvarez. This policy can be summed up as increasing repression, the use of Honduran territory as a springboard for attacks on Nicaragua and El Salvador and the continuation of social injustices that keep the Honduran people mired in poverty.

Political observers saw the Cinchoneros' action as a call to alert the Honduran conscience to a policy that is surrendering the country's sovereignty to the most sinister warmongering interests. Political analysists agree that the first fruits of this action are a demonstration of the repressive nature of Suazo Cordova's regime and the relevation to the world of a police system in which torture and missing persons have been normal occurrences since General Alvarez rose to power as the strongman of Honduras.

The Cinchoneros' operation has demonstrated the failure of any opening to democracy in Honduras. Foreign newsmen in Honduras agreed in stating that, although the hostage crisis at the Chamber of Commerce building has ended, it confirmed that the alleged opening to democracy in Honduras is a failure. The most obvious evidence of this, a newsmen stated, is that there are many people either in prison or missing for politicial reasons. Many of them are not Hondurans, but Central Americans who were arrested for participating in movements that opposed their respective governments and who are persecuted in Honduras for that reason. Newsman (?Swanson) said that the important influence that foreign advisers have in the Honduran Army is a matter of public knowledge.

The Honduran Human Rights Commission affirmed that the Cinchoneros command's operation was the result of repression. It declared that the Cinchoneros' action was the product of the repressive practices of the state security corps, which remain silent on charges made by relatives of the 150 prisoners and missing persons in that country. The commission noted that among the missing are (Tomas Natividad Rodriguez), (Domingo Cruz) and (Manfredo Velasquez), while also denouncing the vile murder of (Felix Martinez). Last, the Honduran Human Rights Commission called on the state security corps to end the repression and to prevent the recurrence of actions like the recent hostage-taking in an effort to seek the release of political prisoners.

Regime War Plans Alleged

PA270240 (Clandestine) Radio Venceremos in Spanish to El Salvador 1400 GMT 26 Sep 82

[Text] General Garcia has admitted to plans to attack Nicaragua. Defense Minister General Garcia declared in a businessmen's meeting that the Salvadoran Armed Forces have drafted contingency plans for an attack on Nicaragua.

Garcia said at the businessmen's meeting that the plans were drafted because we will have no peace as long as Nicaragua is in the hands of its current rulers; therefore, we will have to attack Nicaragua someday.

This statement by Garica is clear evidence that it is the Reagan administration's puppets -- Garcia in El Salvador and General Alvarez in Honduras -- who are promoting war in Central America.

Ungo's Visit to Greece

PA270438 (Clandestine) Radio Venceremos in Spanish to El Salvador 0230 GMT 27 Sep 82

[Text] An information center for the FMLN and the Revolutionary Democratic Front [FDR] will be established shortly in the Greek capital. This was announced by FDR President Guillermo Manuel Ungo. Ungo, who is visiting Athens as a guest of the Panhellenic Socialist Movement and who will attend the international session that will discuss the Chilean military junta's crimes, said that the FMLN-FDR have international support for the triumph of the Salvadorn people's cause. He added that only dialogue can result in a peaceful solution of the problems, while noting that the Salvadoran Government, the military and the United States firmly oppose this.

GUATEMALA

FOREIGN MINISTER ON ALLEGED MEXICO INCURSION

PA280128 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1954 GMT 27 Sep 82

[Text] Guatemala City, 27 Sep (ACAN-EFE) -- Eduardo Castillo Arriola, Guatemalan minister of foreign affairs, said today that his government is "very concerned" about the Mexican authorities' recent protest of an alleged incursion by Guatemalan troops into Mexican territory.

The foreign minister confirmed today that he received a letter from Jorge Castaneda, his Mexican counterpart, in which satisfaction is demanded for the incursion of Guatemalan troops, which cost the lives of two Mexicans and one Guatemalan.

Castillo Arriola stressed that "Guatemala has made no intentional move into Mexican territory."

"I cannot say whether what the letter of protest states is true, but I can say that that area is one of the areas that is greatly affected by the guerrillas, which may be the cause of the event."

The foreign minister announced that he will request additional information from the relevant authorities and that he will report to the Mexican Government in due time.

GOVERNMENT EXTENDS STATE OF SIEGE FOR 30 DAYS

PA280011 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1939 GMT 27 Sep 82

[Text] Guatemala City, 27 Sep (ACAN-EFE) -- The Guatemalan Government today extended the state of siege, which should have ended on 30 September, for 30 days more, Manuel de Jesus Giron Tanchez, secretary general of the Presidency, announced. Giron Tanchez said that the state of siege has been extended for the same reason it was decreed: "to fight subversion."

He also termed as positive the 3 months that the state of siege has been in effect, since "the country's pacification is therefore being achieved."

On 1 July, when Guatemalan President Gen Efrain Rios Montt announced the establishment of the state of siege, he said that one of its objectives was to fight subversion through legal means.

After announcing the state of siege, the army command also ordered the mobilization of troops to the most disturbed zones. At the same time, the high command declared "a fight without quarter in the final battle against subversion."

FRONT DENOUNCES RIOS MONTT EXECUTION 'MANEUVER'

PA270003 Managua EL NUEVO DIARIO in Spanish 18 Sep 82 p 6

[Communique issued by the 31 January People's Front in Guatemala on 17 September 1982 -- capitalized passages published in boldface]

[Text] The 31 January Peoples Front, FP-31, an organization representing thousands of Guatemalan workers, Indian peasants, poor mestizos, students, citizens and Christians, DENOUNCES to the world that the military government led by Rios Montt has launched a new maneuver.

This maneuver involves murder, clothed in "legality," which began today at 0600 with the execution of four Guatemalans at the General Cemetery in Guatemala City. Within the context of the daily massacres, repression and genocide suffered by our people at the hands of the military regime, these four murders add to the tens of thousands of victims, and represent the tragic average of dead per hour resulting from the repression in our country over the last few months.

The facade of "legality" and "respect for institutions" sought by the military government for this kind of murder is prepared through prior trials conducted by special courts that are appointed by the army. These courts, with great speed and impunity, indiscriminately condemn both the innocent and the guilty, as well as true popular and revolutionary fighters. In this way, Rios Montt's government hopes to justify itself before certain sectors of the Guatemalan people and to hide the daily massacres staged in the country's interior, particularly those of Indian communities, which are kept from the public by the repressive military commands and the government.

This maneuver is also intended to confuse international public opinion by giving the impression that "the army and military government no longer commit massacres or acts of genocide, only executions." Thus, they continue their vain efforts to charge the guerrillas with the daily massacres of the people that are, in fact, perpetrated by the military regime itself. In so doing, the regime hopes to improve conditions so that the Reagan administration will provide military, economic and political aid and will increase its intervention in Guatemala and Central America.

The FP-31 also denounces the disrespect for and disregard of the Guatemalan people's cultural and religious values, demonstrated by the fact that the government committed these murders in the General Cemetery, which is sacred to the people as the resting place for the nation's forefathers.

The FP-31 DEMANDS that the peoples; democratic governments; all labor, religious, humanitarian, social, progressive and popular organizations; human rights institutions; and solidarity movements and committees EMPHATICALLY CONDEMN AND UNMASK this new maneuver against our heroic people by the Guatemalan regime and reveal the acts of the genocide and repression by which, added to misery and discrimination, the regime is trying to subjugate the Guatemalan people, in the interests of local wealthy sectors and U.S. imperialism.

LET US REPUDIATE AND UNMASK THE MANEUVERS AGAINST AND MURDERS OF THE GUATEMALAN PEOPLE! LET US ISOLATE THE CRIMINAL GOVERNMENT OF RIOS MONTT! LET US OFFER OUR BROADEST AND MOST VIGOROUS SOLIDARITY TO THE STRUGGLE OF THE HEROIC PEOPLE OF GUATEMALA! WITH OUR STRUGGLE AND WITH INTERNATIONAL SOLIDARITY, WE SHALL WIN! WITH THE FORCES OF THE FIGHTING MASSES PRESENT IN THE PEOPLE'S WAR!

REBEL LEADER CRITICIZES U.S. INTERVENTION

FL231435 Havana Domestic Television Service in Spanish 1130 GMT 23 Sep 82

[Journalist Jose Arteaga interviews (Sylvia Estrada), representative of the Guatemalan rebel forces in Cuba -- from the Revista de la Manana program]

[Text] [Question] Greetings to all our viewers. Welcome to our program (Sylvia). As you know, U.S. imperialism continues to enforce its interventionist policy in Central America. What is the present situation in Central America in this regard?

[Answer] After the shameful defeat imperialists experienced in Vietnam, the United States cannot send its troops to those regions where its hegemony is being threatened. Therefore, the United States is now relying on local national armed forces, making them into what may be called pro-U.S. interventionist national armies. In Central America, U.S. imperialism finances, advises, trains and supplies weapons to the Guatemalan, Honduran and Salvadoran Armies in a vain effort to stop revolutionary processes in the area.

In addition to selling arms, planes, and supplying processing data to the Guatemalan regime, the fascist accomplices of imperialism are implementing plans against insurgents. They are enforcing a scorched earth policy and establishing strategic towns.

Moreover, they are perpetrating massacres against defenseless towns. This genocide can only be compared to the monstrous crime that was recently perpetrated by Israeli troops against Palestine refugees in Lebanon.

A few days ago, four members of the Poor People's Revolutionary Army, which is a branch of the URNG [Guatemalan National Revolutionary Union] were executed. We believe these executions are part of a new stage in U.S. plans against the insurgent movement. In so doing, they are trying to legalize crime and genocide in Guatemala. However, we know that this measure will be defeated since the Guatemalan people are decided to give even their lives to achieve their freedom.

[Question] Honduras plays an important role in U.S. interference plans in Central America. Could you explain Honduras' role in this plan?

[Answer] U.S. imperialism is using Honduras' puppet regime to perpetrate attacks against FMLN forces in El Salvador. Moreover, by creating fictitious border disputes, it is trying to destabilize the Sandinist revolution. The United States has also established military bases and CIA operation centers in Honduran territory.

We appeal to the Cuban people and the international community to give their solidary support to the just struggle that Central American nations are waging so as to avoid the regionalization of the conflict and a possible intervention since this will not stop Central American nations from achieving victory but rather will only extend the struggle.

HONDURAS

PAZ BARNICA SIGNS FINANCIAL AGREEMENT IN PARIS

PA261830 Madrid EFE in Spanish 2319 GMT 24 Sep 82

[Text] Paris, 24 Sep (EFE) -- Honduran Foreign Relations Secretary Edgardo Paz Barnica today signed a protocol with the National Bank of Paris for nearly $20 million to be used in financing the construction of an electric powerplant in Puerto Cortes. The document is a contract between the French firm CCM Sulzer and the Honduran National Electric Power Enterprise, which will be basically financed by the National Bank of Paris and other credit institutions.

The agreement includes a $12.7-million credit for purchases, and a complementary credit for an additional $7 million. The Honduran foreign secretary and the director of the National Bank of Paris Treasury Department signed the two documents this morning.

Paz Barnica arrived in Paris yesterday on a 2-day official visit. He will meet with the French Foreign Minister Claude Cheysson and the Secretary General of the Presidency Jean-Louis Bianco. Tonight he will also have dinner with Claude Cheysson at the Quai d'Orsay, and tomorrow morning he will hold a news conference at the Honduran Embassy in Paris.

News Conference

PA262140 Paris AFP in Spanish 1348 GMT 25 Sep 82

[Text] Paris, 25 Sep (AFP) -- The convulsion in Central America derives from "perennial methods of political oppression and social injustice," Honduran Foreign Secretary Edgardo Paz Barnica said today at the end of his official working visit to Paris.

At a news conference held after he met twice with Claude Cheysson, his French counterpart, Paz Barnica put emphasis on the Honduran Government's peace proposal for Central America. Last April, France said that it was sympathetic to the initiative; now, according to Paz Barnica, France still considers it "a very positive element."

After highlighting the important role that France plays on the international scene, the Honduran foreign secretary -- who arrived in Paris from Geneva on Wednesday -- said that his meetings with Cheysson were "sincere and objective."

Paz Barnica also said he delivered a message from Honduran President Roberto Suazo Cordova to his French counterpart Francois Mitterrand and that he requested French cooperation, on a multilateral basis and through organizations such as the UN Office of High Commissioner for Refugees, UNHCR (Honduras has approximately 40,000 refugees), the EEC and the IMF.

Another subject he discussed with Cheysson was the relocation of some of the refugees in other countries. He stressed that this does not mean that Honduras questions the right to asylum; apparently, these would be "voluntary transfers" of refugees whose presence in Honduras endangers peace in the country or affects Honduran relations with neighboring countries. The majority of the refugees in Honduras are Salvadorans, Nicaraguans (particularly Somozists and Miskito Indians) and Guatemalans.

The Honduran peace proposal, presented before the OAS and the United Nations in March, is based on the following fundamental points; general disarmament, a reduction in the number of foreign advisers, international supervision and vigilance, control of illegal arms trafficking, absolute respect for borderlines and the implementation of permanent multilateral talks among the region's countries.

Paz Barnica added that several countries in the region support the Honduran plan, and voiced his desire to discuss it with his Nicaraguan counterpart Miguel d'Escoto in the near future. According to the Honduran foreign secretary, Nicaragua has been the most hesitant country in accepting the plan.

"We want to prevent the Vietnamization of Central America and the Lebanonization of Honduras," Paz Barnica concluded, after denouncing the various "destabilization attempts against Honduras' democratic regime."

Paz Barnica, having earlier analyzed the refugee problem with the UNHCR in Geneva, will now continue his European tour in Brussels and Madrid.

The Honduran foreign secretary's visit to Paris confirms France's interest in the Central American situation and follows recent similar visits by leaders from Cuba, Nicaragua, Costa Rica and Grenada.

COMMUNIST PARTY COMMENTS ON CINCHONEROS ACTIONS

PA261815 Havana International Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 26 Sep 82

[Text] The Communist Party of Honduras has said that the seizing of the Chamber of Commerce and Industries in San Pedro Sula, Honduras, by the Cinchonero people's liberation movement command is an answer from the people to the repressive policy of the regime under Gustavo Alvarez Martinez, which is increasingly worsening the crisis in that country. The organization states that with this action it has been demonstrated once again that the Honduran people are not afraid of the armed forces terrorist escalation, and are determined to use the most varied means and methods in their struggle to achieve liberty and complete independence.

The Communist Party of Honduras also warns about the growing submission to the Armed Forces Command of Suazo Cordova's government, which dangerously increases the possibility of a coup in that Central American nation.

NICARAGUA

EMBASSY IN U.S. RESPONDS TO BOSWORTH STATEMENT

PA260115 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 0210 GMT 25 Sep 82

[By Filadelfo Martinez]

[Excerpts] Managua, 24 Sep (ACAN-EFE) -- Top-level Sandinist officials have protested a statement made by Stephen Bosworth, deputy assistant secretary for inter-American affairs, who accused Nicaragua of promoting the action by the "Cinchoneros," who took over the Chamber of Commerce building in San Pedro Sula on Friday.

This weekend, the Nicaraguan Embassy in Washington presented a note to the U.S. Congress in reply to Bosworth's comments, which were made before that legislative chamber. In this document, Nicaragua categorically rejects the State Department's accusations, terming them "biased, false and slanderous."

According to the Managua government, the U.S. official is trying to disguise the real causes of the Central American crisis, among them the Reagan administration's "interventionist policy" in the region, particularly the "destabilizing" activity against Nicaragua that it promotes and finances.

According to the Sandinists, the State Department goes to the extreme of "hiding" the many peace initiatives that Nicaragua has developed from the U.S. people even from the House of Representatives. Among these initiatives, they mention the invitation that the Sandinist government extended last August for a meeting in Managua between Nicaraguan Junta Coordinator Commander Daniel Ortega and Honduran President Roberto Suazo Cordova.

The Nicaraguan note sent to the U.S. Congress adds that another proposal for a private meeting between Foreign Minister Miguel d'Escoto and State Secretary George Shultz, to seek a normalization of relations, apparently did not even merit an answer from the U.S. Government.

BARRICADA ON U.S. MILITARY AID FOR HONDURAS

PA260441 Managua BARRICADA in Spanish 16 Sep 82 p 3

[Commentary: "Accelerated Arms Buildup"]

[Text] The accelerated military reinforcement of Honduras confirms Washington's decision to use the reactionary sectors within the Honduran Armed Forces as the perpetrators of its interventionist plans in Central America and the Caribbean.

"I would permit the passage of U.S. troops through Honduras," Gen Gustavo Alvarez Martinez, chief of the Honduran Armed Forces, recently told Mexican television Channel 13.

Last week, John Dimitri Negroponte, U.S. ambassador in Tegucigalpa, announced that next month the expansion of three Honduran military airports will begin, at a cost of $21 million, which has been granted by the U.S. Congress.

In exchange for these funds, the government led by Dr Roberto Suazo Cordova has authorized the use of these airports by big U.S. military aircraft.

The air terminals are located at Puerto Lempira on the Atlantic coast (next to Nicaragua), at Comayagua (near El Salvador) and in Copan Department (on the Guatemalan border).

If imaginary straight lines were to be drawn between the areas in which Washington is expanding and fortifying Honduran military installations, it would create a triangle whose points are strategically aimed at the Nicaraguan, Salvadoran and Guatemalan borders.

This distribution of military installations includes another base at Durzuna, a remote region that is 450 km north of Tegucigalpa, moving toward the Nicaraguan Border. [as published]

U.S. military units from the Panama Canal area "helped" the Honduran forces to install the base, the cost of which is estimated at over $10 million, according to the U.S. paper THE NEW YORK TIMES.

The plans for military reinforcement include the construction of two new naval bases on the Atlantic coast, at Punta Castilla, Colon Department, and on the Caratasca Bay (near Puerto Lempira), Gracias a Dios Department. Another naval installation is being built at Puerto Amapala, on El Tigre Island in the Gulf of Fonseca, sovereignty over which is shared by Honduras, El Salvador and Nicaragua.

In conjunction with the creation of new military installations, there is a plan to reinforce the army by increasing the number of troops to 20,000 whose officers receive special military training.

The Honduran Army, which has 95 U.S. advisers, as the THE NEW YORK TIMES pointed out, is as large as that of either El Salvador or Guatemala, although the Honduran population, some 3 million, is smaller than those of its two neighboring countries.

Meanwhile, THE NEW YORK TIMES report added, the Honduran Air Force is actually the strongest in Central America, with more jet fighter planes than any of its neighbors and with 18 helicopters (only 2 less than the Salvadoran fleet), most of them "left" on its territory by the United States.

WHEELOCK ATTACKS U.S. AT INRA OFFICIAL'S FUNERAL

PA242236 Managua Radio Sandino Network in Spanish 1200 GMT 24 Sep 82

[Text] The attack in Jalapa in which companeros with the Nicaraguan Agrarian Reform Institute [INRA] were killed was an effort to discourage and destabilize the revolution's plans for the country's northern region, Commander Jaime Wheelock said at the funeral for Roberto Alvarado, a veterinarian, in San Jorge, Rivas Department.

Commander Wheelock added that the counterrevolutionaries are trying to destabilize our process at any cost, even by stealing means of production, like the fishing boats that were taken to San Andres Island and the plane that a counterrevolutionary took to Honduras.

He added that the Nicaraguans wish to live in peace but that there are enemy forces that don't want to see changes in Central America and are encouraging the counterrevolutionaries. I am referring, he said, to the Reagan administration.

The U.S. Government has unleashed an armed attack on Nicaragua, blackmailing other governments by use of economic leavings so that they lend themselves to this attack on the [2-second break in transmission].

He urged the people to be prepared in the face of these attacks, for, given the massacres in Vietnam and Lebanon, who is to say that they might not do the same to us. In conclusion, he said that in the next few days, Sandinist Peoples Army troops will be sent to reinforce the border and will be true bastions in fighting the counterrevolution.

Here is an excerpt of Wheelock's statement: [Begin Wheelock recording] The crime that was committed against these two companeros was intended to frighten the workers and to destroy our efforts in northern Nicaragua. We know that this is a part of the same chain of events that has forced us to relocate entire towns and to modify our production plans and that has had negative effects on our efforts. However, such actions will not frighten us. Above all else, we are completely and firmly convinced that our revolution is unbeatable and invincible. [applause, crowd chants: We fight to succeed, they shall not pass; we will keep our promises to the homeland at any cost]

This revolution is invincible because it is based on a just cause. It is based on the cause of the humble and the oppressed. It is based on a cause that, for the first time in our homeland's history, upholds the demands and interests of the great majority of Nicaraguans; the peasants and workers. It is based on a cause that upholds and guarantees the future of thousands of Nicaraguans who are living, who are about to be born and who are the children of humble families. This just cause is the main source of inspiration for our forces. [applause] And these forces are backed by the people's unanimous support for the revolution and for the revolution process.

This is not support from the kind who expect economic benefit. It is support from people who, beyond having benefited from the limited efforts we've made amidst our poverty, feel free for the first time to decide their own destiny. It is support from people who have been oppressed and trampled on, but who now feel proud and dignified by the revolution. It is support from people who know that the doors of the past, which closed off their future, were swept away by the revolution, so that the past and the ignominy of exploitation and oppression cannot return. It is support from people who are struggling for their freedom in a firm and constant way and with a warm and revolutionary spirit, like that of Roberto, Denis [Arante, the second INRA official who was killed] and our other martyrs who have fallen in these months of our revolution.

A revolution that is based on a just cause and supported by people who are conscientious, as well as being armed and willing to use their weapons to guarantee their rights, cannot be defeated. [end recording]

Protest to Honduras

PA262216 Managua Radio Sandino Network in Spanish 1200 GMT 25 Sep 82

[Text] The Nicaraguan Foreign Ministry sent another note of protest to the Honduran Government yesterday over last Wednesday's murder of two experts with the Ministry of Agricultural and Agrarian Reform, Midinra, in the vicinity of Jalapa, committed by former Somozist guardsmen who operate in Honduran territory. The foreign minister demanded that the government of that northern fraternal nation control the former Somozist guardsmen in its territory, who invade our country to murder Nicaraguan people and to violate public order.

The Nicaraguan Government, through its Foreign Ministry, also reiterated the need for Honduran President Roberto Suazo Cordova to accept the invitation to a high-level meeting with Commander of the Revolution Daniel Ortega Saavedra, government junta coordinator, for discussion of issues and situations that concern both countries.

BARRICADA CITES COUNTERREVOLUTIONARY ACTIVITIES

PA242151 Managua BARRICADA in Spanish 13 Sep 82 p 7

[By Juan Ramon Huerta and Carlos Duran]

[Excerpts] Unlike the border guards in the northern area, members of the southern border guard must deal with special circumstances. The guards there spend 80 percent of their time in the water around Colon, Orosi and Cardenas, which are on the narrow strip of land between the Lago de Nicaragua and neighboring Costa Rica.

The enemy's activity does not entail direct attacks or mortar fire, as in the north. Instead, counterrevolutioanry activity in this zone is characterized by infiltrations, intended to gather information, which is then taken to camps located about 5 km from the border. It is estimated that some 1,000 men are receiving military and political training there for an attack on our country.

The primary activity carried out by enemy camps on the other side is infiltration. We are aware of this, for we have detected and captured several of them.

Detected Camps

Some of the counterrevolutionary camps that have been detected are those at San Jose de Upala, Victoria, Armenia, Las Marias, El Delirio, Los Andes and El Hacha hill, the enemy's operational center.

The most prominent counterrevolutioanry centers are at El Hacha hill, some 8 km from the border, facing Cardenas on the south; and at Buena Vista, hidden in a mountain range some 6 km from the border. The latter even has a medium-sized landing strip, which is used by a small airplane owned by John Hull, a U.S. citizen. It is his task to distribute food and supplies to the counterrevolutionary camps in that sector.

Buena Vista was owned by Alberto "Shapsell," who later sold it to John Hull for use by the counterrevolutionaries as an operational base. FSLN Base 18 was located in the same place during the war of liberation.

Airspace Violations

John Hull has a Cessna airplane, with which he violates Nicaragua's airspace almost on a daily basis, mainly by night, according to reports from border area residents.

Peasants who live only a few meters from the border and border guards at the Penas Blancas post say that the counterrevolutionaries operating on the southern border use M-16, FAL and Galil rifles. They also use the M-14, and assault carbine that is the standard weapon for the Costa Rican Civil Guard.

In addition to the periodic airspace violations by John Hull's airplane, unidentified helicopters and airplanes fly over the Nicaraguan border areas almost every day.

These constant airspace violations take place at night, between 2400 and 0100.

The last armed harassment, which took place in May, was against the Penas Blancas border post. On that occasion, they fired machineguns at a quarantine hut, believing that the border guards were there. The counterrevolutionaries were carrying Garand, Galil, FAL and M-14 rifles at the time.

Francisco Martinez is a border guard who witnessed the action. "We were waiting for them to cross the border, but it didn't happen. Obviously, this was a provocation, to cause us to return the fire, thus creating a diplomatic incident," he said.

VIERA ACCUSES U.S. OF PRESSURING UN MISSIONS

PA241824 Havana International Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 23 Sep 82

[Text] Jose Viera, Cuba's first vice minister of foreign relations, has said that the battle to have the United Nations include the Puerto Rican case as a separate topic on the agenda of its annual meeting has only begun and is not over yet. He was referring to the unfavorable vote cast at the organization yesterday as a result of U.S. pressures.

In a statement to PRELA, Viera said that the discussion of the Puerto Rican issue was the main point that attracted the political attention of all the delegations. This means, he added, that when Cuba presented a motion for the inclusion of the topic and Latin American awareness increased, the Puerto Rican case came out of the closet where the United States was trying to hide it and became a matter of political importance for all UN members.

At U.S. request, 11 members of the General Committee voted against including the topic on the agenda. Meanwhile, seven members voted for inclusion, (?eight) abstained and two did not vote. According to diplomatic sources, the U.S. Government used its classical methods of blackmail in private talks with some delegations and certain foreign ministries; it hinted at cuts in bilateral economic aid. It even circulated notes to certain missions urging them to vote against the inclusion and not merely abstain.

According to UN General Assembly rules, Cuba still has the option of presenting the Puerto Rican case to the plenum, which would have to decide with a vote.

HAVANA REPORTS CIENFUEGOS MISSION TO PANAMA

FL271132 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1045 GMT 27 Sep 82

[Text] A Cuban delegation sent by Commander in Chief Fidel Castro and composed of Osmani Cienfuegos, Manuel Pineiro and Jose A. Naranjo last week visited Panama, where it met with President de la Espirella, General Paredes and other personalities. They discussed the present Central American situation and the strengthening of bilateral relations.

The talks were held in a climate of trust, frankness and mutual respect. Gen Ruben Dario Paredes, chief of the Panamanian National Guard, said recently that the visit of the Cuban delegation to Panama was very important for Central America. After describing this as a good will visit and referring to a personal letter from Fidel, Paredes said that there are serious problems in Central America. He said that one cannot postpone the right of the people to find their own paths. He urged negotiated political solutions in Central America without the imposition of systems of any kind. Finally, he said that the Cuban delegation demonstrated a great sense of responsibility and seriousness and also believed in a negotiated solution to the Central American problem.

GRANMA REPORTS ON TALKS WITH PANAMANIAN LEADERS

PA271920 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1838 GMT 27 Sep 82

[Text] Havana, 27 Sep (EFE) -- GRANMA, spokesman of the Cuban communists, said on its front page today that the talks between a Cuban delegation sent by President Fidel Castro and top Panamanian authorities "were held in an atmosphere of trust, frankness and mutual respect."

The Cuban paper states that the meetings with Panamanian President Ricardo de la Espriella, National Guard Chief Ruben Dario Paredes and other members of the Panamanian National Guard General Staff "dealt with matters related to the present Central American situation and the strengthening of bilateral relations."

The report limits itself to publication of the statement by National Guard Chief Gen Ruben Dario Paredes calling for "political, negotiated solutions for Central America without the imposition of systems of any kind."

The important Cuban delegation that went to Panama late last week was made up of Osmani Cienfuegos, member of the Politburo of the Communist Party of Cuba [PCC]; Manuel Pineiro, chief of the Americas Department of the PCC Central Committee; and Jose Naranjo, member of the PCC Central Committee.

VISITING FRENCH MINISTER NOTES AREAS OF ACCORD

PA260126 Havana International Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 24 Sep 82

[Text] France rejects any maneuver intended to curtail the peoples' right to economic and social development, French Health Minister Jack Ralite said here in Havana, referring to the economic blockade that the United States has imposed on Cuba for the past 2 decades, which includes a ban on sales of U.S. firms of medicine or medical instruments and equipment.

Ralite said that the growing French-Cuban cooperation in the area of public health may aid in counteracting the effects of this U.S. decision. The French minister, currently on a week's visit to Cuba, made a statement to the press in which he praised Cuba's achievements and progress in public health, stating that it is comparable to any developed country.

Here, he said, we have found a people who are proud of their work and who are determined to reject any foreign interference in their chosen way of life.

Referring to his two meetings with Fidel Castro, Jack Ralite noted that the Cuban leader is very friendly and capable, having broad knowledge and expertise in health developments.

In addition, he stressed, we must note that in our meetings we have agreed on such important issues as the defense of peace, respect for the Central American peoples' inalienable right to choose their own destiny and support for the Palestinian people in facing the aggressive Zionist attitude toward them, to mention only three examples.

In conclusion, the French minister expressed support for an effective French-Cuban exchange on matters of public health and said that his visit to Cuba has been a most important and gratifying experience.

Minister Ralite Ends Visit

FL271024 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1000 GMT 27 Sep 82

[Text] French Health Minister Jack Ralite has left for home at the end of a week-long visit to our country. During his stay, the French minister visited several hospitals and other health centers in the Isle of Youth and Havana.

On hand at the airport to see off the distinguished visitor and his delegation were Sergio del Valle, member of the Politburo and minister of public health, and Hector Rodriguez Llompart, member of the party's Central Committee and minister president of the State Committee for Economic Cooperation.

The visit of Jack Ralite, who is also a member of the French Communist Party Central Committee, is part of the development of bilateral scientific-technical cooperation, in which health has always held a prominent place. Both parties stressed that the visit will also help to organize cooperation in tropical medicine in the immediate future.

ALGERIAN PARTY DELEGATION CARRIES ON VISIT

Meets Rodriguez, Malmierca

FL251830 Havana Domestic Television Service in Spanish 1700 GMT 25 Sep 82

[Text] The Algerian National Liberation Front [FLN] delegation led by Comrade Suleymane Hoffman, member of the FLN Central Commitee and chairman of its External Relations Commission, has been received by Carlos Rafael Rodriguez, member of the Politburo and vice president of the Councils of State and Government. During the meeting they exchanged views regarding international issues.

The delegation also met with Foreign Minister Isidoro Malmierca, member of the Central Committee. During the course of their meeting international and Nonaligned Movement topics were discussed, especially the details regarding the seventh summit to be held in New Delhi. They also discussed bilateral relations between Cuba and Algeria.

Meeting With Castro

FL271123 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1032 GMT 27 Sep 82

[Text] Commander in Chief Fidel Castro, first secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Cuba, has received Suleymane Hoffman and his delegation at the Palace of the Revolution. Hoffman is chairman of the External Relations Commission of Algeria's National Liberation Front.

During the friendly meeting, Hoffman conveyed a fraternal message from Algerian President Chadli Bendjedid and his wishes for furthering the close relations of cooperation and friendhsip between Cuba and Algeria. Fidel recriprocated on both counts. Several international issues were discussed during the talks, especially the Nonaligned Movement. They emphasized the will on both sides to work for nonaligned unity in the face of imperialism' aggressions and threats.

Cooperation Protocol Signed

FL280059 Havana Domestic Television Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 28 Sep 82

[Text] The signing ceremony of a protocol between the Communist Party of Cuba and Algeria's National Liberation Front Party was held at the Cubanacan Protocol Hall. The document was signed by Jesus Montant Oropesa, alternate member of Cuba's Communist Party Political Bureau, and Suleymane Hoffman, chairman of the Foreign Relations Committee of Algeria's National Liberation Front Party.

The protocol provides for consultations and exchange of information with a common interest in the consolidation of the anti-imperialist front. The protocol, which will be in effect 2 years, will contribute to further strengthening the fruitful and fraternal relations as well as promoting a multiform cooperation between the two countries and enriching their experiences in building a more just society.

[Begin Montane recording] By signing this agreement, we are fulfilling the mandates of our two presidents, Bendjedid and Comrade Fidel. We hope to make a reality what we have signed, and that the relations between Algeria and Cuba further strengthen. [end recording]

[Begin Hoffman recording in French with consecutive Spanish translation] We have concretely expressed the desires of our memberships. We have been together a long time in the struggle against imperialism, for building a more just society and for many other future achievements. The next phase is a difficult one. It is difficult because the imperialist aggression is becoming increasingly more intense. [end recording]

ANGOLAN PARTY LEADER SIGNS MUTUAL AID AGREEMENT

FL271755 Havana Domestic Television Service in Spanish 1700 GMT 27 Sep 82

[Text] Lopo do Nascimento, member of the Central Committe of the Popular Movement for the Liberation of Angola, [MPLA] - Labor Party, and planning minister of Angola, and Hector Rodriguez Llompart, member of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Cuba and minister president of the State Committee for Economic Cooperation, today signed an agreement on the talks held between them as presidents of the mixed intergovernmental Cuban-Angolan commission for economic, scientific and technical cooperation.

Experts and specialists from both countries met for several days to analyze the state of cooperation during 1982 and reached agreements of mutual benefits and expansion for 1983 to widen this important sector in the fraternal relations between the two countries. During his stay in our country, Comrade Lopo do Nacimento visited various places of economic, political and social interest.

ANGOLA'S FOREIGN MINISTER REFERS TO CUBAN TROOPS

PA270356 Havana International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 26 Sep 82

[Text] In a statement to the Mozambique Information Board, Angolan Foreign Minister Paulo Reixeira Jorge said in Maputo that up to now neither the electoral system in Namibia nor the composition of the UN forces that will be sent there as a result of the deadline for the cease-fire in the region have been determined.

The Angolan foreign minister added that, contrary to what has been expressed by some Western media, no agreements have been reached on negotiations with the contact group; the South West Africa Peoples Organization, SWAPO; the frontline countries and the Pretoria regime. He also said that some Western countries are trying to blame the Peoples Republic of Angola for the delay in the (?negotiations) on the problem of Namibia, using the pretext of the presence of Cuban troops on Angolan territory. He concluded by stating that the Cuban troops are in Angola at the request of that nation's government to aid in repelling the attack by South Africa and that they will be removed as soon as Pretoria's intervention ends.

MACHADO VENTURA SPEAKS ON ECONOMIC PROBLEMS

FL271045 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1000 GMT 27 Sep 82

[Text] Jose Ramon Machado Ventura, member of the Politburo, has made an appeal to face the economic difficulties and to advance in spite of them. He made the appeal in Camaguey before an extraordinary plenum of the provincial party committee held in this city. After speaking on aspects of the party's internal work, Machado Ventura made an appeal to increase the efficiency of the next sugar harvest in order to decrease the effects of the drought in this province.

The party leader reaffirmed his confidence that the party's comrades, the state, the mass organizations and all the people of Camaguey will face these difficulties with the customary spirit and will successfully carry out the tasks assigned to the province by the revolution.

The plenum analyzed a document from the Cuban National Bank on the country's economic and financial problems in its relations with the captalist countries. Subsequently Lazaro Vazquez, first secretary of the party in Camaguey, called for a titanic effort to decrease as much as possible the effects imposed by the consequences of the capitalist world's crisis, the aggressive Yankee imperialist policy and the low sugar prices on the world market. Based on these premises, the party leader called for the utmost attention to the forthcoming sugar harvest in order to produce higher quality sugar and to save more in fuel, raw materials and energy.

INTER-AMERICAN AFFAIRS

OAS COUNCIL PRESIDENT FAVORS LATIN BLOC

FL240114 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 1430 GMT 23 Sep 82

[Text] Mexico City, 23 Sep (NOTIMEX) -- Hilarion Cardoso, president of the Permanent Council of the OAS, has said in Mexico City that Latin America should form a bloc to demand dignity and respect from the United States.

The Venezuelan told NOTIMEX that only by uniting can the Latin American countries make their voices heard by the United States.

He discarded any confrontation with the United States because, he said, in modern times the economies of the world have to be interrelated in order to develop through trade and finance.

He believes that at the present time, trade between Latin America and the United States has deteriorated due to the excessive protectionism of the Reagan administration, which prevents the sale of Latin American products.

The problem is worsened by the high bank interest rates which have raised the foreign debts of the Latin American countries and has confronted these countries with the worst postwar crisis without alternatives for immediate solutions, he added.

Cardoso has promoted a conference of Latin American foreign ministers on 15-16 November at the OAS headquarters on a private, informal level. It will be a great opportunity to discuss the problems of the inter-American system and its possible reorientation, he said.

Regarding the initiative of Mexican President Jose Lopez Portillo and Venezuelan President Luis Herrera Campins to pacify Central America, which was expressed in letters sent to the heads of state of Honduras, the United States and Nicaragua, he said that he considers this historic.

Finally, he said that no negotiations have been started within the OAS to find solutions to the grave Central American problems.

VENEZUFLA

HERRERA: WE WILL NOT INVADE ANY COUNTRY

PA271615 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1455 GMT 27 Sep 82

[Text] Caracas, 27 Sep (EFE) -- Venezuelan President Luis Herrera Campins today denied allegations of an invasion of Guyana over the two nations' differences over the Essequibo region. In a statement broadcast in Caracas today, President Herrera commented on the coming meeting of 13 chiefs of state of the Caribbean region. Guyana wants to include the subject of a Venezuelan invasion on the agenda.

President Herrera said: "Venezuela will not invade anyone because it is a sovereign and peaceful nation that respects international law and treaties." He noted that all the Caribbean countries know Venezuela is using peacefu means approved by international law to make its historic claims over the Essequibo region, and therefore the Jamaica meeting does not represent any danger to Guyana.